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Poetry.

IN THE SPRING.

In the spring the Sunday scholar humps himself with sudden zest;
In the spring those tortuning aches 'gin to give
At the bend a rest;
In the spring his tortoise movement changes to a lively gate;
In the spring he trains for picnics; nothing tempts him to be late.

'TIS BETTER TO DIE.

'Tis better to die, leaving some one behind,
Than to live when the loved is dead;
For memory's mission to such human kind
Is to plant thorns in Love's crape-hung bed.

The one has no thought in death's mystical trance
Of the laden-winged moments of grief;
For Time, to the sleeper, is but a star's glance,
Just a stalk from eternity's sheaf.

But time to the other eternity seems;
'Tis an age ere the summons is sent
That brings soul to soul as in brief, empty dreams,
Which were bliss with dumb agony blent.

—[Franklyn W. Lee.

THE HINDU SKEPTIC.

"I think till I weary with thinking,"
Said the sad-eyed Hindu king,
"And I see but shadows around me,
Illusions in every thing. (1)

"How knowest thou aught of God,
Of his favor or his wrath?
Can the little fish tell what the eagle thinks?
Or map out the eagle's path?

"Can the finite the infinite search?
Did the blind discover the stars?
Is the thought that I think a thought,
Or a throb of my brain in its bars?

"For aught my eye can discover,
Your God is what you think good—
Yourself hasted back from the glass
When the light pours on it in flood.

Y ou preach to me to be just,
And this is His reason, you say,
But the good are dying of hunger,
While the bad gorge every day.

"You say that He loveth mercy,
But the famine is not mine;
That He loveth the shedder of blood,
Yet He slayeth us every one.

"You say that my soul shall live,
That there will not be an end;
If He was content when I was not,
Why not when I have passed by?

"You say I must have a meaning,
So has flies and ants; its meaning is flowers;
What, if our souls are but nurture
For lives that are higher than ours?

"When the fish swims out of the water,
When the bird soars out of the blue,
Man's thought may transcend man's knowledge,
And your God be no reflex of you!"

(1) Hindu meta physicians say that the material world is unreal—"maya"—i. e., "illu lou."

—[San Francisco Star.

Our Story Teller.

THE WHITE CAT.

I.

I was crossing from the law courts to my chambers in the temple. It was the week before long vacation, and I was looking forward to a well-earned rest. Constant attendance at the courts had made havoc of my nerves and I needed to replenish my over-taxed resources.

I was walking rapidly, my hands in my pockets, my head bent toward the ground, when I suddenly became conscious of shouts to which I had hitherto paid no heed. At the same moment a hand touched my arm, and a passer-by told me that it was my attention which the shouts were intended to attract, and turning I saw a coachman even now gesticulating from his box. With a feeling of annoyance I crossed the road.

"Did you call me?" I asked impatiently.

"I did, sir. Her ladyship wishes to speak to you."

Then I was aware that a fat forefinger was beckoning to me from the interior of the brougham.

"Oh, my dear Mr. Oswald Jones!" said her ladyship. "You are Oswald Jones, aren't you? I am delighted to see you; I am indeed. You are not looking well. Come inside for a moment; I wish to speak to you."

I obediently entered.

"Ah, Mr. Oswald Jones!" she continued; "see what a penalty you pay for success!"

I began modestly to assure her ladyship that the prize was worth the pain.

"No doubt, no doubt—to an ambitious man. But you should not overdo it. You are never without a headache, I am sure; you never have an appetite; in short, you are a miserable creature."

I was beginning to protest, but her ladyship cut me short.

"Not a word now. I have not lived sixty years for nothing, and I say that you, a successful barrister with a large practice, are nevertheless a miserable creature. Your mother was a dear friend of mine, and I reproach myself with having neglected my friends. Now, I feel myself bound to look after you. When do your holidays commence?"

"To-morrow is the last day of the term."

"Then next Monday morning you must take yourself and baggage to Waterloo, and come by the 10:15 train to Barkington. Some one shall meet you, and you shall spend your vacation with me."

"My dear Lady Powneeby," I exclaimed, appalled at the thought of spending two months with this old lady, "I could not think of troubling you. I was thinking of going to Branscombe with a friend."

"You are not to go to Branscombe; it's too fashionable; you would not rest there. I will take no refusal; you must come. We'll make you comfortable. We are quiet, you know, but not dull; my niece is with me, and there are several good people in the neighborhood. I shall expect you Monday morning; don't disappoint me. Now go home; take an old woman's advice and have a basin of gruel before bed to-night. Good-by."

I accepted her plump hand despairingly. I was incapable of resisting her authoritative invitation—her size added weight to her argument—and so I found myself engaged to rusticate at Barkington.

Lady Powneeby, whom I hardly knew, was the widow of an Indian merchant who, having won a fortune and a baronetcy, died, leaving the childless widow to console herself with the solidity of one and the sentiment of the other.

Duly on Monday morning I left Waterloo, and in a couple of hours was seated in Lady Powneeby's dog-cart listening languidly to the inane monotone of the coachman. My hostess met me with effusion at the door, and insisted on my going at once to my room, where I found a luncheon tray on invalids. In the afternoon she took me round her ample grounds, pointing out things here and there for me to admire.

"Dorothy is out," she said presently. "She is very busy with her poor women this morning. She is very useful in the village; indeed our vicar, Mr. Haig, calls her his assistant curate."

"Dorothy is your niece?"

"Yes; my poor sister, Mrs. Braithwaite's daughter. She is an orphan. You will meet her at dinner, and I am sure I hope you will be great friends."

I hoped so too. I never was a lady's man. Of women friends I had not one, and of acquaintances but a few. What would two months be at Barkington if Dorothy and I were not friends? I was anxious to meet her. Her name sounded prim, I thought; and her aunt's mention of parochial work had raised a foreboding within me. She was a sallow, angular, old-young lady, I felt sure, who spoke always with precision, and whose conversation savored of the mothers' meeting. I was angry with myself for coming to this place, and waited for the dinner-hour on thorns.

Even then no relief came. As the bell rang Lady Powneeby sailed into the drawing-room. I looked past her in search of the niece, but she was not there.

"Dorothy has not come in yet, Mr. Oswald Jones. We will not wait dinner for her; one never knows when she will return; will you give me your arm?"

I felt that I was a man with a grievance. I, Oswald Jones, of the Middle temple, barrister-at-law, one of the rising men, the papers said, had condemned myself to spend my vacation in an obscure country-house, and Dorothy Braithwaite (but a rather pretty name, I thought), spinster, showed herself so unimpressed as to absent herself from the house the whole day. I felt disagreeable and sipped my soup in silence. But with the fish came Dorothy.

I am sorry I am so late, aunt," she said. "Mrs. Wade's Tommy has the measles, and I had to mind her other olive branches while she fetched the doctor. This is Mr. Oswald Jones?"

I had risen, and she looked at me with a frank smile as we shook hands.

"I am terribly hungry," she said. I was beginning to fear that I should be too late to get anything."

She sat down and began to eat with a healthy appetite. I watched her. My foreboding was utterly stultified. Not angular, but tall and stately; not sallow, but with a complexion of red and brown, fair hair and a pair of eyes so large, blue, dark-fringed, expressive that I felt my visit was not in vain. I would have gone twice as far to make the acquaintance of the owner of such eyes. She was not prim, but perfectly self-possessed. She seemed to ignore me. She seldom spoke during the meal, and when she did it was to tell her aunt of some incident of her day's work. Occasionally she would look up at me and I was charmed with her delightful eyes. When the ladies left me I did not linger long, but hastened after them. Lady Powneeby was settling herself for her post-prandial nap; Dorothy was sitting at the window, leaning back in her chair and looking into the gathering dusk.

"Come and sit here," she said to me, and I placed a chair opposite her.

"You must make yourself at home, Mr. Oswald Jones," said a sleepy voice from the other end of the room. "I am an old woman; you must put up with my weaknesses."

"I am rather surprised to find myself here," I said to Dorothy.

"Are you? Aunt often speaks of you. She thinks a great deal of you."

"Indeed. I hardly know her."

"She reads the *Times*, you know, and whenever she sees your name in the law reports she reads them with tenfold interest. 'Here's Oswald Jones's name again,' she will say; 'I really must know more of that young man.'"

"Why does she always call me by my full name? Why not Mr. Jones simply?"

"Oh, there are so many Joneses, you know. Our curate's name is Jones, and no doubt she calls you Oswald Jones to distinguish you from him."

Perhaps Dorothy was to be assistant curate in a more particular sense. Strange to say, I felt jealous. But with reverence in from asking any questions by a sudden introduction to another inmate of the house. Something stirred behind the curtain at my side, and out sprang a large white cat, which, having been disturbed in its sleep, dug its claws into the carpet and arched its back in cat fashion, and then leaped into Dorothy's lap. Dorothy began to fondle it, stroking its head, putting her head against its, and performing those many little tricks which ladies and cats enjoy. Now I abominate the whole feline race, but the thing I hate most in this world is a white cat. And this cat especially won my detestation. Its fur was spotlessly white, and the fact that I could find no fault with it made me hate it the more. Dorothy spoke to it, and kissed the animal. I loathed it.

"I hate cats!" I cried.

"Popsy hates men," Dorothy serenely replied. "Arthur Jones, our curate, you know, is the only man she will allow to touch her."

"Perhaps he is the only Jones," I said, feeling more jealous still. "Let me try."

But Popsy did not approve of my petting. Somewhere from her interior proceeded a low rumbling, her ears were laid back, and I judged it wise to relinquish the experiment.

"We are to be enemies, then," I said, and I fear I was scornful of Dorothy's evident affection for the cat.

Here Dorothy suggested that we should walk in the garden; I agreed, and that walk was the first of many. Before a fortnight had passed I was madly in love with Dorothy. I was distractedly happy when in her company. But I felt some little uneasiness because of the Rev. Arthur Jones and the white cat. I had watched the reverend gentleman carefully. He was a bright, happy-faced young cleric, and his behavior left no sort or doubt in my mind that he loved Dorothy. And the high spirits seemed a proof that no other than the loved one was the lady or fully expected to do so. Scarcely a night passed without my dreaming of him or the cat. In one of my dreams I saw an ancient sibyl warning me with outstretched fingers to beware of the white cat, and as I gazed, fascinated, at the animal the form of its countenance was changed and I saw the curate's face, wreathed in a triumphant smile.

Time sped happily away. I went with Dorothy to picnics and garden parties; I took her for drives, walks, and rides; I boated with her, played tennis with her, and listened to her singing. I regained my health and lived in an elysium. I determined that my vacation should not close without a question and an answer—mine the question, Dorothy's the answer. I loved her; did she love me?

I suffer from an embarrassing defect of constitution. I can talk to the bewigged solemnities on the bench without a quickening of the pulse, but with ladies, if ever I wish to go beyond mere society talk, I become nervous and confused and stammer painfully. Although I had made up my mind to ask Dorothy my question, day after day slipped by and it was still unasked. The last day of my visit came. I was to leave by the last train, at 10 o'clock. I passed the day with Dorothy, but said no word to her of what was on my heart. Dinner time came, and still I had said nothing. Lady Powneeby, after declaring that she would forego her nap on this my last evening, went to sleep in the drawing-room, while Dorothy and I sat in our favorite seats by the window. She had some needle-work, but not a stitch did she make. I had a book, but not a word did I read. The dog-cart was was to be at the door at 9:15, it was now 8:30.

"Are you sorry your holiday is over?" Dorothy asked.

"Very," I said laconically.

Another silence!

"Will you have much work to do when you get home?" she said.

"I hope so."

Silence again!

"You will forget all about us."

"Never."

A quarter to 9!

I was in a dreadful state. I was hot and cold. I could not sit still.

Nine o'clock!

Still I had not asked my question. Many times I had opened my mouth to begin; then something seemed to grip my throat and I could not utter a word.

Five minutes past 9!

I was in agony! I looked out of the window; I took out my watch; I played with my chain; I crossed and recrossed my legs; I blurted out:

"Are you sorry I am going?"

"Of course. You have been very pleasant company."

I thought she spoke coldly, and saw again the metamorphosis of cat into curate.

"May I hope that you would be pleased to see me again?"

"Oh, yes!"

Silence.

Ten minutes past 9!

"Dorothy!"

"Yes?"

"Will you—can you—are you engaged to the curate!"

"Oh, no! How absurd!"

"Can you—will you—do you—would you like to be married?"

"I don't know," she laughed.

"Would you—could you—Dorthy—I must tell you——"

S—s—s—s—h!! A prolonged hiss startled us both. I had come close to Dorothy, and my right hand was approaching hers. I felt a sharp pain in my forefinger, and the white cat flew out of the window recess, glared and spat upon me, and sprang into Dorothy's lap. I stood up and cursed that cat; Dorothy uttered a little cry; Lady Powneeby awoke and said: "Dear me! Have I been asleep?" and a servant screamed and said, "The dog-cart is waiting for Mr. Oswald Jones."

I had time only to see my boxes carried out and to take a hurried farewell of my hostess and her niece, and then I was driven away to the station. And I had not asked my question.

II

For the next two months I devoted myself exclusively to my work. I heard no concerts, saw no plays, ate nobody's dinners but my own, and took my guineas as they came. I had leisure to reflect. I anathematized the white cat, and regarded myself as one with whom the gods had dealt hardily. But for the cat I might now have been the happiest instead of the most miserable of mortals. I began to see dimly that I had made a fool of myself; I had had months in which to say my say to Dorothy, and then what an exhibition I had made of myself at the last moment.

A week before Christmas I received a kind note from Lady Powneeby asking me to give her and her niece—and her niece—the pleasure of my company during Christmas week. I laughed at the thought of it. I replied by return of post, excusing myself very emphatically, and made up mind with some bitterness to spend Christmas in bachelor solitude.

The morning of Christmas day I found awaiting me when I came down stairs from my bedroom a large hamper. With a fervent benediction on the kind thoughtful soul who had shown such a practical sympathy for my forlorn condition, I cut the cord. What pictures in my mind of mince pies and other Christmas delicacies! What anticipation of the delight of teeth meeting teeth in the seasonable turkey! I raised the lid—but drew back with almost a scream, for out of the basket sprang, not vivified mince pies or a resuscitated turkey, but my sworn enemy, the white cat.

"What surprise! What disappointment! What disgust! What my still greater surprise when the cat, instead of spitting and swearing at me, as was her wont at Barkington, now raised her inoffensive tail, and arched her graceful back, and rubbed her irreproachable white fur against my legs! The cat had become friendly toward me! I divined that it was hungry, and placed some milk before it, for which it purred its thanks.

When I thought of this strange event I came to the conclusion that a deliberate insult had been intended. I grew exceedingly wrathful. And I felt skeptical of the love which could consign its object to the tender mercies of a railway guard. But second thoughts induced me to believe that Dorothy must have had an object in sending her cat to me. She would hardly insult me so gratuitously. And so I gradually weaved in my mind an explanation. Dorothy loved me, and wanted me, and had sent her favorite to me as a messenger of peace and good will. She had placed the cat unreservedly in my hands; what could she mean but that she preferred me far above the cat? My timidity disappeared. Glancing at the clock, I found that I could just catch the 10:15 train. I hurriedly threw some things into my portmanteau, consigned the cat to the care of my astonished landlady, and rolled off in a cab to Waterloo. I had only time to scramble into the first compartment the guard opened for me, when the train started.

As soon as I collected myself I looked to see who my one fellow passenger was.

"Dorothy!" I exclaimed.

It was she. She had herself brought up her Popsy; she told me that she expected me to come by the first possible train. I was delighted, and, when she begged me not to think her unmaidenly in the course she had adopted, I gave her osculary demonstration how content I was. What need to set down what we said and did? The guard kept our compartment sacred to us and passed the window unanswered head. In a month Dorothy and I were one, and we get on very well with each other and with our mentor, Lady Powneeby, and our most familiar friend is the white cat.—[Argosy.

He Fiddled and They Fit.

A Mill Creek miner thus winds up the story of a fight between 1,000 wolves that besieged his cabin one night recently in the mountains of that region, incited to frenzy by the notes of the aforesaid miner's fiddle.

"I fiddled and they fit and ate each other, till the band began to thin out. Every time I gave an extra rasp on the E string they howled louder and pitched in afresh. They kept it up for three hours, when there wasn't more than 40 or 50 left, and they so blamed thin they couldn't hardly waddle. But I fiddled and they fit for a second wind. When one threw up the sponge the others bolted him in a twinkling. By and by there wasn't more than a dozen left. But I fiddled and they fit and feasted.

"When they got down to three, each one laid hold of another's tail and chawed for glory. The ring kept growing smaller, but I fiddled and they chawed until there was only a bunch of hair left, and that blowed away when I quit. The snow was all red with blood, and trampled down ten feet. Heads and bones were strung all around the canon, and there was fur enough in sight to stuff a circus tent. It was the dandiest dog fight I ever saw."—[Virginia City Chronicle.

Things One Cannot Move.

"Yes, we are going to move," said a young woman yesterday to a friend she met on the street car. "Fred thinks we need a larger house, as the children are getting along. But it is hard work, this moving. It tears things up by the roots so. We've lived in that house ten years, and there's one strip of woodwork in the front room that I'd like to take with me."

"Is it decorated?" asked the friend, with interest.

"Yes. It has the height of the children notched on it from the first year up to now. But there's one missing. 'Arty, so high,' is gone, I mean that—that he is the one we lost, and that record of five years is—all—that's left."

Drummers' Experiences.

First Drummer—"On the Atlantic & Pacific railroad a few days ago a locomotive lost its smokestack in a collision. Well, sir, they just stuck a barrel over the hole and went right along as if nothing had happened."

Second Drummer—"That reminds me of an accident that happened to a train I was on recently. The engine jumped the track and was smashed all to flinders; but in five minutes we were moving along toward the next station, where we arrived only a little late."

"Humph! How could that be?"

"We got out and walked."—[New York Weekly.

Why He Knew.

"So, Uncle Jack, you don't much believe in the idea that men are called to preach."

"Wall, sah, de Lawd must call some niggers ter preach, but it sorter 'pears ter me dat whar de Lawd calls one, ole man Laziness calls er dozen. Nine nigger preachers outen ten is de lazies' pussons in de worl'."

"How do you know, Uncle Jack?"

"'Caze I's er preacher mersef, sah."—[Arkansaw Traveler.

A Useful Boy.

Irate Subscriber (in thunder tones)—"Where's the editor of this sheet?"

Smart Boy—"He jist stepped in next door. Come along an' I'll show you." [Leads the way to a building occupied by several dentists.]

Irate Subscriber (stopping in hall-way)—"Eh? What's that yelling up stairs?"

Boy—"Guess the editor has caught the man he was after."

Subscriber (hurriedly)—"I'll—I'll call again—[New York Weekly.

Catering to a Trade.

First Paris Artist—"Vy you put zat salt in ze paint?"

Second Artist—"Eet is for a marine picture. I make zee paint salt; zen when ze Americans put zair fingers on ze water and afterwards put zair fingers to zair lips zey say, 'Eet is wonderful! Ve almost taste ze salt of ze ocean.' Zen zay buy."—New York Weekly.

Asking Too Much.

Stranger (out West)—"See here! I want you to arrest those two men over there for forcing me into a game of poker with them and then swindling me."

Policeman—"I'r askin' too much, stranger. I can't arrest them gents. Ouch's th' honored mayor of this ere city, an' th' other's th' chief of perlice."—[New York Weekly.

Boston Photographers.

"Now fix your eyes on this subject." Customer—Do you wish me to smile? Boston photographer—A gentle smile might be well. Remember what Richter says: "The happiness of life consists not in single flashes of light, but in continuous mild serenity." "Thank you. That is the idea exactly."—[America.

Our Serial Story.

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A TEMPERANCE STORY.

BY

Thomas W. Knox

AUTHOR OF "OVERLAND THROUGH ASIA," "THE YOUNG NIMRODS," "THE BOY TRAVELERS" (IN TEN VOLUMES), "CAMP-FIRE AND COTTON FIELD," "UNDER GROUND," "DECISIVE BATTLES SINCE WATERLOO," "JOHN," "HOW TO TRAVEL," "MARCO POLO FOR BOYS AND GIRLS," ETC.

CHAPTER XLIII.

CLUB LIFE IN THE METROPOLIS.

PARTLY in order to learn something about club management, which might be useful in running his coffee-room enterprise, and partly on account of the social advantages promised, Thomson had his name put up as a candidate at the Marigold, one of the fashionable clubs of the metropolis, though not of the highest rank. The older and more aristocratic clubs were full and there was a long list of waiting candidates for the Marigold was a comparatively new club which was bidding for public favor, and, like most clubs of New York in the first years of their existence, was not crowded. It was purely a social organization, and had no leaning towards any political or other party, nor was it in any sense sectarian.

"We have in our membership," said the friend who proposed to nominate him, "all the professions you can think of: lawyers, doctors, journalists, artists, politicians, and the like, and then we have business men from merchants worth their millions down to clerks on salaries, and some who have a hard time to get along and make both ends meet. The club is a capital place to study human nature, and you'll find plenty of it in the Marigold."

"But I have heard that a club is a bad place for drinking," Thomson answered, "and if I can't get along without drinking or being tempted to do it, I don't want to belong to any such organization."

"As to that," his friend responded, "any respectable club is pretty nearly what you choose to make it. You may drink or not, as you like, and nobody will interfere with you, provided, of course, you don't become intoxicated, make a disturbance and disgrace yourself, in which case the governing committee will send you a warning, and if you repeat the offense will expel you or ask for your resignation. Some clubs are very rigid on this point, and others are quite lenient; in the Marigold we occupy a medium position, and allow men to indulge with reasonable freedom, though we set our faces against anything like disorderly conduct.

"The bar is in a remote part of the house," he continued, "and nearly all the drinking is done in the vicinity. Some men never go near the bar, and others go straight to it whenever they come into the house; Mr. X——, whom you know, is one of the former, while Mr. Z—— is of the latter. I doubt it X. has ever seen the bar, though he has been a member of the club for three or four years, while Z. hasn't seen any other part of the house, with the exception of the restaurant, where he goes to eat his meals. The parlors are as quiet as you could wish, and as for the library the silence is so great that you can cut it with a knife."

"If I am elected," Thomson answered, "I shall imitate the example of Mr. X——, and stay away from the bar and its immediate vicinity. You may propose me as soon as you like, for you think I shall be elected. I have heard that some of the clubs object to having teetotallers among them. Is that so?"

"Not in any reputable clubs that I know of," was the reply, "though I have heard of an instance where the election of a candidate was opposed by a few men on that ground. But it occurred some time ago and was not in the Marigold, and I doubt very much if it would ever be seriously brought up in any club that you or I would care to join."

Thomson's name appeared the next day on the bulletin board of the Marigold, and in due time he was approved by the committee on admissions, and duly elected to membership. The secretary sent him a polite notice of his election, a bill for initiation and dues, to which he promptly responded. He called in person at the club to settle the financial formalities and make the acquaintance of the officers; he was introduced to such of them as happened to be in the house on the evening of his visit, and was then turned loose upon the other members with the suggestion that he must feel perfectly at home.

He declined to drink, and briefly explained that he did not patronize the bar. The subject was then dropped and it was readily understood that he was not likely to be of the drinking contingent of which every metropolitan club can boast (or feel ashamed).

Two or three times a week Thomson spent a portion of the evening at the Marigold and took note of its general arrangements with a view to the adoption in his coffee-room of such features as he found of advantage. Sometimes as he sat in the parlors or library he heard the sounds of hilarity coming from the region where the bar was situated, and on one occasion there were angry voices that indicated a quarrel. The next day it was whispered that a member had rendered his resignation and the managing committee had held a special meeting in order to accept it as promptly as possible.

The reason of this haste was that it had long been desired to get rid of the member in question; he had provoked a quarrel while under the influence of liquor and fearing a complaint that might lead to his expulsion he had tendered his resignation. Some of his friends were busy trying to induce the offended individual not to make a complaint and if they had obtained his agreement to refrain from demanding justice they would then cause the resignation to be withdrawn. Hence the precipitation of the governing committee to accept what they had so long wished for. The organization of a man who was a perverbial bore as a "good fellow" and a very disagreeable one when in his cups.

"If I had my way without regard to anybody else," said Thomson's introducer while they were discussing the subject, "I would abolish the bar in this and every other club I belong to, purely in the interest of good order and discipline. Nine-tenths of all the quarrels in clubs, and nine-tenths of all the trouble of every kind within their walls come directly or indirectly from the bar. Nine-tenths of all the money the club loses for unpaid bills, for refreshments or food, is on bar account, and nine-tenths of the expulsions for bad conduct or non-payment of bills are due to the intemperate use of liquor. The drinker believes that the club should be run for the benefit of the drinking men, and that the tastes and wishes of others are not worth consideration. Once when we were obliged to curtail expenses on account of hard times, our list of newspapers, magazines and other literary matter was ruthlessly cut down, but the bar and its accessories suffered no curtailments whatever."

"And if I could have my way," said a grizzled veteran, who was listening to the conversation, "I would abolish the bar in every club-house on the same principle that I would establish a prohibitory law everywhere, and put an end to the sale of intoxicating drinks. I've been a club man for more than thirty years, and it is appalling for me to look back and see what a great number of good fellows have fallen by the wayside, gone to the poor-house, the hospital or the grave, through this curse of drink. Not a month in which some of business can escape; the wrecks include doctors, lawyers, professors, merchants, brokers bankers, 'all sorts and conditions of men,' and some of the brightest minds as well as some of the duller ones. 'Death loves a shining mark,' the poet tells us; if he had written 'Drink,' in place of 'Death,' it would have been just as near to the truth. It makes me sick and bitter. I think of the men of promise whose careers were blasted by their indulgence in drink, and not one of them ever dreamed he was becoming a drunkard until the habit was so fixed upon him that his weakened will power could not struggle with it.

"In my first few years of club life," he continued, "I did my share of drinking. I was fond of good company and good cheer, and for some time felt no ill effects from my late hours and free potations. But after a while I found them telling on me, and one night I lay awake for two or three hours, having a very serious argument with myself. The result of this debate was that I stopped at once, but I never realized the true inner grip of King Alcohol till I tried to shake it off—and succeeded. After that I wasn't nearly as good a fellow among the boys as I had been, but I saved my health and my life too. I am justified in saying I saved my life as all my old companions, with the exception of one who followed my example, is now in his grave, and some of them died paupers or were near paupers. Drink ruined and killed them, but it is not fair to say that club life did it. A man who goes to the bow-wows with drink in a club would probably go there in the same way if he never joined a club, and he can, if he will, let rum alone here just as well as outside."

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He declined to drink, and briefly explained that he did not patronize the bar. The subject was then dropped and it was readily understood that he was not likely to be of the drinking contingent of which every metropolitan club can boast (or feel ashamed).

Two or three times a week Thomson spent a portion of the evening at the Marigold and took note of its general arrangements with a view to the adoption in his coffee-room of such features as he found of advantage. Sometimes as he sat in the parlors or library he heard the sounds of hilarity coming from the region where the bar was situated, and on one occasion there were angry voices that indicated a quarrel. The next day it was whispered that a member had tendered his resignation and the managing committee had held a special meeting in order to accept it as promptly as possible.

The reason of this haste was that it had long been desired to get rid of the member in question; he had provoked a quarrel while under the influence of liquor and fearing a complaint that might lead to his expulsion he had tendered his resignation. Some of his friends were busy trying to induce the offended individual not to make a complaint and if they had obtained his agreement to refrain from demanding justice they would then cause the resignation to be withdrawn. Hence the precipitation of the governing committee to accept what they had so long wished for. The organization of a man who was a perverbial bore as a "good fellow" and a very disagreeable one when in his cups.

"If I had my way without regard to anybody else," said Thomson's introducer while they were discussing the subject, "I would abolish the bar in this and every other club I belong to, purely in the interest of good order and discipline. Nine-tenths of all the quarrels in clubs, and nine-tenths of all the trouble of every kind within their walls come directly or indirectly from the bar. Nine-tenths of all the money the club loses for unpaid bills, for refreshments or food, is on bar account, and nine-tenths of the expulsions for bad conduct or non-payment of bills are due to the intemperate use of liquor. The drinker believes that the club should be run for the benefit of the drinking men, and that the tastes and wishes of others are not worth consideration. Once when we were obliged to curtail expenses on account of hard times, our list of newspapers, magazines and other literary matter was ruthlessly cut down, but the bar and its accessories suffered no curtailments whatever."

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TURKISH ROYALTY.

ROYAL LIFE IN FAR-AWAY TURKEY.

The Sultan—Beauty of Royal Women—Turkish Cavalry—The Imperial Boat on the Bosphorus—An Early Spring Scene.

[Written for THE BLADE by Mrs. Lew Wallace. Copyrighted, 1890.]

"Know ye the land of the cedar and vine,
Where the flowers ever blossom, the beams ever shine;
Where the light wings of Zephyr, oppress'd with perfume,
Wax faint o'er the gardens of Gul in her bloom;
Where the citron and olive are fairest of fruit,
And the voice of the nightingale never is mute;
Where the tide of the earth and the hues of the sky
In color though varied, in beauty may vie?"
—[Byron.

The stranger entering Constantinople at noon might think the rushing stream of life on Galata Bridge represents a people of industrious habits and tireless energy. In reality it is one of the idlest of cities, and repose of mind and body-taking *kief* (i. e., lazing) in the Turk's supreme happiness.

Time has no value to the Moslem. Immovable fatalism makes the future, whatever it be, acceptable, and the ambitions and industries of restless Christian nations are unknown to the descendants of men who ravaged the earth under Genghis Khan and Tamerlane.

Friday, the Mohammedan Sunday, is the most delightful of all the week. It is an interruption to labor, if there be any, because then the Sultan makes his only outing; the whole population rouses and goes to see the one sovereign of Europe; who can trace his lineage through four centuries, an unbroken succession, without the sceptre once declining to the distaff, and without the accession of a collateral branch.

He is the thirty-first ruler of the house of Othman, reaching back to Sheik Ertogrul of glorious memory, founder of the Ottoman Dynasty, who was buried at Eske Scheher 1238.

About 2 o'clock in the afternoon the commander of the Faithful leaves Yildiz—Palace of the Star—mounted usually on a milky white Arabian steed, which he manages with a delicate and skilful hand. He wears the uniform of an army officer, without ornament except a slight dress sword. His bearing is kingly, his face thin and colorless, eyes black and keen as a falcon's; in his fairly east there is a mingling of fierceness and gentleness, as becomes the descendant of the most illustrious warrior of Islam, the successful wooer of the fair Makhtateon.

If the old Tartar blood is dominant in Abdul Hamid Second, one would not suspect it while he bows right and left, as though by life-long contact with different races he had caught and united in himself the graces of them all. Seeing him thus, we readily believe that the wearer of the sword of Othman, uncontrolled master of fifty millions, has so kindly a nature he has never signed a death warrant. His manner is always gentle and gracious, as befits the throne room the perfection of that subtle attraction conveyed to our minds by the word courtly—a charm far beyond the reach of mere personal appearance.

Some of the royal family have had great beauty inherited from Circassian mothers. An English artist who painted Abdul Medjid, father to the present sultan, declared he had in his studio at one time a month's work in a perfect Cupid's bow. Physically, the house has declined since Turkish corsairs scoured the Mediterranean countries for women worthy the name of Sultana, and stole high-born Venetian ladies to adorn the imperial harem.

There must be no umbrellas opened in presence of the Shadow of God upon earth. Time was when raising a parasol in front of majesty would be the signal and mark for musket-shot from a sentinel. This peaceful furling of parasols is a far-away reminder of the tyranny of Amurath Fourth (1623), who opened batteries on boats inquisitive in view, and sent all on board to the bottom.

Those were the days of the sword and the bowstring, when sunrise over the Bosphorus revealed on its shores corpses of victims nightly strangled; and so familiar with executions were the abject councillors of the Divan that, when summoned to appear at the Sublime Porte, they bathed in the death ablution before entering the presence of the despot. He it was who, among small murders, beheaded his chief musician for singing a Persian air, and decreed: "Those of my illustrious offspring who ascend the throne may put their brothers to death in order to secure the peace of the world."

We are living in better times.

Shrill and sweet as nightingales, the band discourses wild, barbaric music attuned to fighting and victory, which must have been learned when the Pashas himself led the armies and made it his custom to pitch his tent and sleep on the field of battle.

The whole ceremony of marching to the mosque is much changed since the Janizzaries have vanished. The flowing robes, crusted with precious stones, the jeweled turbans and cimeters gleaming the sight are now to be seen only in museums and treasure houses. Anciently the war-horse of the king of a hundred kings pranced on carpets soft as plush spread along the way to ring-bestrewn Mount to St. Sophia, to be taken up and then distributed among the crowd.

The troops are of martial and imposing carriage—picked men of the empire from the Soudan to Albania. Well do they guard the banners of green—the colors of the prophet (he reads in gloss)—and every man-jack among them is ready to give his service, or, if need be, to die for the true faith. The Islamite who deserts his post or flies before his foe is held by the code military deserving of death in this world and of hell fire in the next.

Turkish cavalry has long been admitted the finest in Europe; and first among them are the Imperial Guards of the Sultan, whom Russell of the London *Times*, called the most picturesque scoundrels in the world. They are bloodthirsty and treacherous, renowned for reckless bravery and matchless beauty of the pure Caucasian type. Even among the meanest of them you see noble, well set heads of finest mould, testifying to unmixed blood of the best breed of living race.

They wear curious arms and silver cartridge pockets at their breasts in memory of a twenty-five years' struggle against Russia under their prophet-chief, Schamyl, when their power was first shattered and broken.

The Sultan enters the Mosque with one Imam to offer the prayer none other is entitled to say in behalf of the officers of the army and navy in full uniform, with jewelled orders and decorations, wait at the entrance. The stay within is short; the half hour soon passes, the royal supplicant reappears, remounts the fretting desert-born, the guards close around him, the multitude cheer, "Long live the Padishah," and then the immense crowd breaks away for the pleasant afternoon on the banks of the Bosphorus.

Let us quit this overcrowded Babylon and seek the Valley of Sweet Waters of Asia, and, that we may be Oriental as possible, let us not take a steamer, eu step into a caique, a vessel peculiar to the Bosphorus as the gondola is to Venice.

Formerly the Sultan spent his holiday on the water, but the present dispenser of crowns to monarchs leaves Yildiz only to seek the nearest mosque, so the imperial caique is rarely seen, which is a pity, for it is the prettiest thing afloat—a long, slender boat, sharply taper at both ends, painted pure white, touched with pink and gold, and graceful as a lily on the waters. Its twenty-four rowers keep perfect time together. They are clad in silk, scarlet, and embroideries. Draperies of foreign fabric and glowing color touch the ripples. At the stern is a gilded peacock, and the airy craft skims the waves like some swift bird in swimming flight.

A generation ago there were eighty thousand caiques playing up and down, darting in every direction lightly as butterflies. Now there are less than half that number. The natives call them swallow boats, and the motion is so restful to the two passengers (the dear reader and writer) we hardly realize the hard work required among the varrying currents till we see sweat pour down the faces of our oarsmen and the muscles of their arms knot like cords.

Thin planks of tulip and beechwood appear too frail to oppose any force, and we shiver when heavy steamers pass. The aerial fabric rides the tiny waves, and its sharp points offer small resistance to the sweep of the ever moving waters. The fragile things have no ballast but the occupants, and we must sit perfectly still or upset while we head toward the Asian shore.

Now the stream—really a rapid river between two seas—is two miles wide. Look back at Seraglio Point, the scene of imperial wars and loves, the residence of masters of Byzantium a thousand years before the Turks crossed into Europe. In the tideless land-locked harbor we call the Golden Horn, iron-clads bought in England are idly lying. Beyond them westward, vast and dark, is the leaden roof of St. Sophia, the temple where forty generations had worshipped before Michael-Angelo, in the valley of vision, beheld against the sky of Italy the peerless dome of St. Peter's.

Every sort of boat that goes by oar, and everything that can sail, and everything that goes by steam, passes us. Many vessels carrying merchandise are built like the galley of Jason, which sailed this way, bound for Colchis, in the prehistoric mythic period, and some touch for lading at a wharf which yet bears his name. The water is blue as though colored by indigo, clear as crystal, and sparkles fall off the oars like pearly beads. Some caiques are gilt, richly carved and inlaid with precious woods. Perhaps the rowers are named Aristides and Themistocles, showing they have not forgotten the glory that was Greece, or may be there is an armed attendant in gorgeous vestments, a native of Montenegro—the mountain eyrie which has defied the Sultan and all his hosts four hundred years.

Here comes the splendid caique of an Eastern ambassador, curtained with shawls of finest fabric and warm and changeful hues. Madame l'Ambassadrice, robed with soft raiment inwrought with gold, reclines in quietude among her silky pillows, placid and content as the cushat in her nest; beside her a little daughter. The child has wonderful dark eyes, and looks about in eager delight. At the age of fourteen she will be veiled and guarded. On her tiny hand is a flaming jewel so precious she may well believe the legend that, when wrested from a wandering tribe, only one man knew in which of twelve boxes it was kept, or on which of one hundred camels it was carried in the march.

The mother wears a veil of flowered gauze through which we cannot see her features, but elsewhere I have been allowed to behold the full moons of full moons in her unveiled loveliness. They say she is of an unconquered people in some remote corner of a sterile mountain region. I do not know; but I do know that from the beginning, though beauty abide in a wilderness, the king's son will make a path to her hiding place and fit the virgin slipper to her foot.

The Sultana Valide (Sultan mother) is abroad to-day, and no one can guess how many odalisques from the seraglio. It is said the Padishah has more wives than David, but not so many as Solomon. Who knows may tell.

It is early spring; the judas trees (our red-bud) are in bloom, tinting the atmosphere pink like peachblow, and the sheltered slopes on both sides of the Bosphorus are redolent of Damascus roses. Thousands of pigeons flutter in the melancholy cypress groves which mark the home of the absent—a mighty company. Along the terraced hills are strings of palaces with steps leading to the water, cool pavilions, costly as gems, gushing fountains, fairy villas of cedar and stone, with latticed windows, and here, summer houses, picture-like shapes floated up out of the depths and resting on air. Oh, how its beauty comes back to me now!

SUSAN E. WALLACE.

On Advertising.

There seems to be an unwarrantable objection in some minds, morally medical minds, to paid advertising upon certain kinds of paper. All matters of this kind are decided by reference to the "Code of Ethics." This, as we shall see, though in many respects, strict, is plainly quite loose and elastic in others. For example, they are permitted to advertise upon tin and other metals, brick, stone, wood and cardboard. They are allowed to put out and pay for the writing, and scatter their professional cards with liberal hand. They may write books, which are sold at a high price, giving a full account of their wonderful cures, always by way of illustration, and interesting details as to patients' age, height, complexion, temperature, temperament, respiration, and domestic affairs. But this is not considered "advertising." Their contributions to medical journals, describing, with appalling accuracy of detail, the cases they have cured, are copied gratis by the newspapers. But all this is within the code.

We have often given our views on this subject and defined our position. As the public do not seem to share this prejudice to any alarming extent, we simply point to what has been accomplished by our Compound Oxygen Treatment in chronic cases, and those given over by physicians, and call your attention to 1,000 physicians are using it in their practice, and taking it themselves. But you will find it all, evidence, records and descriptions of cases, proof irresistable and convincing, in our book, sent free. Dies Bros. & Kleiss, 1529 Arch St, Philadelphia, Pa., or 120 Sutter St., San Francisco, Cal.

How the Shaddock Gets its Name.

It is only within the last year or two that a fruit of peculiar appearance has been seen in the fruit-shops and stalls of Boston. It is orange-shaped, although much larger than the largest specimens of that fruit and of the color of a lemon. Internally is said to partake somewhat of the nature of both fruits named, although its flavor is much more like that of a mon than of a orange. Placards announce it as "grape fruit," although why it should be so called is a mystery, for it in nowise resembles a grape. A fruit very similar to this, but much larger, is called the "shaddock," though the two names are sometimes used interchangingly. Specimens of the true shaddock sometimes weigh from three to five pounds. At the South this fruit is raised chiefly as an ornament to lawns and grounds, and the great yellow fruit, in some cases as large as pumpkins, shining through the dense green foliage, is said to be strikingly beautiful. The tree is a native of China and Japan, and was first brought to the West Indies by one Captain Shaddock, whose name the fruit bears.—[Boston Advertiser.

Portraits on the Currency.

The Washington *Star* gives this list of portraits on the national currency: On United States notes—$1, Washington; $2 Jefferson; $5, Jackson; $10, Webster; $20, Hamilton, $50, Franklin; $100 Lincoln; $500, General Mansfield; $1,000, DeWitt Clinton; $5,000, Madison; $10,000, Jackson. On silver certificates—$10, Robert Morris; $20, Commodore Decatur; $50, Edward Everett; $100, James Monroe. On gold notes—$20, Garfield; $50, Silas Wright; $100, Thomas H. Benton; $500, A. Lincoln; $1,000, Alexander Hamilton; $5,000, James Madison; $10,000, Andrew Jackson.

A Few Reflections.

If there wasn't so much money in the world there would be more religion.—[Indianapolis Ram's-Horn.

Honesty may be the best policy, but comparatively few people take any interest in it.—[Boston Post.

Every one says too much except the man who knows mean things about those we hate.—[Atchison Globe.

The people who always practice what they preach seem somehow not to preach such disagreeable things as other people do.—[Somerville Journal.

Satan smiles when he hears one person flatter another about his or her personal appearance. One, if not two, butterflies are nearing the candle.—[Milwaukee Journal.

A Clever Woman.

Hyde—Mrs. Campaner is a good housekeeper. She has a large family, and they are not rich, but she manages to husband her resources very cleverly.

Barker—She has also managed to husband four of her seven daughters.—[Light.

So She Is.

Tomson—I don't see the use of the talk about selecting a national flower. We have one already.

Jonson—What is it?

Tomson—The American girl, of course. Isn't she a daisy?—[Light.

Way Up.

She—I suppose balooonists feel perfectly safe when they make ascensions, don't they?

He—Yes; but it's a question whether they aeronaut.—[Light.

A Five-Headed Instrument.

Capt. Charles H. Townsend, of New Haven, Conn., has invented an instrument which serves as a sextant, a theodolite, a transit, a peloras and an azimuth circle.

For Cure of
STRAINS & STRAINS
use
St. Jacobs Oil
Cures
PROMPTLY AND PERMANENTLY
WITHOUT RETURN OF PAIN.
AT DRUGGISTS AND DEALERS EVERYWHERE
THE CHAS. A. VOGELER CO. BALTO. MD.

THE BLUE-LOOKING BIRD.

A Little Story for Breadwinners Rich and Poor.

A tired, worn-out mother, who had gone to the country with her little girl, sat under a tree. Soft air came down across a clovered slope, and silken grass hung over and fluttered on the dimpled surface of a rivulet. The yellow poplars were in bloom, and the humming-bird, with her Easter dress still new, twittered in ecstatic vanity at a wood-pecker that sought to woo her. A handful of violets, held by the little girl, were yellowed by a dandelion. She was a pale child, with, it seemed, a premature plentitude of brown hair. She had never seen the country until that very day, and she could scarcely believe that she was permitted to gather the flowers.

"Won't the policeman come and take them away from me?" she asked, looking about timidly and sitting down beside her mother.

"No, dear, there are no policemen in the country."

"Then why don't everbody live in the country?"

"If everybody did then there would be need of policemen."

"But we could live here, couldn't we?"

"No, for there would be no work for me to do."

"But you wouldn't have to do any work if you lived here."

"Oh, yes, dear, I should have to work no matter where I might be."

"Why?"

"Because I am poor."

"Who made you poor?"

"Oh, don't ask such questions, Mary."

"You never did anybody any harm, did you?"

"Never in this world."

"And have rich people done harm?"

"Some of them have."

"I am too tired to gather flowers. Will I catch cold if I lie down here?"

"No," the mother answered, making a pillow of a shawl, "lie down and go to sleep."

"And if that big blue-looking bird comes back will you wake me up so I can see him?"

"Yes."

She was soon fast asleep. The tired woman bent over her. Cattle came down and drank at the brook. A farmer boy, breaking up the corn land in an adjoining field, cast glances at the sun, as though longing for the noon hour, and a four-some man, with a rusty bag thrown across his shoulder, trudged wearily down the road. A woman in a far away door-yard stood with a bread-tray resting on a low gate post, and cheerily called the chickens.

The little girl awoke. "Where are my flowers?" she asked.

"Here they are, dear, just where you left them."

"I dreamed that the policeman came and took them. Did the blue bird come back?"

"No, but he may be back after awhile. Do you feel rested?"

"Almost. I wish you would sing to me."

"Oh, I can't sing now, Mary, I declare I can't. It is almost as much as I can do to talk."

"Please sing just a little bit of a bit."

"Precious, I really cannot. Don't you know that I have not been able to sing any since I had that awful cold in the winter. Come, let us go up to the house."

They went to a farm house not far away. A brusque woman was sweeping the yard. A lazy dog with one eye shut lay on the porch.

"I reckon you find it mighty lonesome out here," said the farmer's wife.

"Oh, no," the city woman replied. "This is the only resting place I have found for many a day."

"Well, I guess it does keep a body on the move in the city, havin' to go to so many balls and parties."

"I do not go to any. I work in a shirt factory."

"Why, I didn't 'low that city folks had to work at all. I always thought that the folks in the country had to keep them up in their idleness."

"And my little girl expressed the opinion just now that the people in the country did not have to work any. Her idea of the work is that the laborer must be shut up in a house."

"Ho, that ain't no work a tall," spoke up a slouching boy that had left his plow and came to the well to get a drink of water. "If I didn't have nothin' to do but to stay in the house I wouldn't care whuther Sunday came or not. It's doin' out in the brilliant sun that makes a feller hump."

"Mamma," said the little girl, "I want to lie down. I am tired."

"I am afeerd," said the farmer's wife, "that you brought her here too late, and I don't know but you came too late yourself."

* * * * * * * *

A little white face in a beautiful tangling of brown hair. A high, old-fashioned bed,—white plaster kittens on each corner of the mantelpiece and a clock ticking midway between them. It was late at night, and the tired boy snored in the "rafter" room just above. The mother and the farmer's wife sat beside the bed. The child had been sleeping. Suddenly she awoke.

"Won't you sing to me?" she asked.

The mother tried to sing, and then sobbed on her pillow.

"You can't sing, for you have such a cold," said the child. "Did the blue-looking bird come back, mamma?"

"No, angel."

* * * * * * * *

The tired boy snored in the "rafter" just above. The child was asleep—asleep for evermore. A handful of flowers lay on the bed beside her. The policeman did not come and get them.—[Opie P. Read.

HORSFORD'S ACID PHOSPHATE
Makes an Invigorating Drink
with water and sugar only. Delicious.

DR. DEPEW HAS A NEW STORY.

His Own Account of How He Was Interviewed at Waycross, Ga.

Savannah Cor. New York Sun.

While in the south Dr. Chauncey Depew picked up material for several new stories. Mr. Seaver Page did not return empty-handed in this respect either, and between the president and the secretary there is many a hearty laugh in store for the Union league's set.

Of all his stories, Mr. Depew has none which excels his description of an interview by a country special correspondent. The train had stopped for a few minutes at Waycross, a thrifty railroad junction in Georgia, half way between Savannah and Jacksonville. During the wait Mr. Depew stretched his legs on the platform. The natives got on to him, and he was approached by a youth who is not yet old enough to vote. Introducing himself, the correspondent remarked:

"I don't know how I ought to begin this interview, Col. Depew; but how do you like Waycross and this section?"

"I have been strangely impressed with them," Mr. Depew replied, pleasantly.

"Do you think the World's Fair will have any effect on the next Presidential election?"

"It will be very likely to have some effect if it is held in Chicago, but it would not have any were it held in New York."

"Do you expect to improve yourself, colonel, while in the South?"

"Yes, I expect to gain seven or eight pounds a day for the next two weeks."

"You ought to be a judge of orators, colonel. What is your opinion of Henry Grady?"

"Ah, he was a great orator. I'm only a speaker. In time, though, the South will recover from his loss."

"We were on the same paper. It's a big one, isn't it?"

"Yes, it's as big as most of the New York papers on Sundays."

"Do you believe the Republicans will carry the south in 1892?"

"Probably not any more than they are carrying it now, but a great deal depends upon the nominations."

"You don't doubt that Mr. Cleveland could carry Georgia?"

"If the Democrats can get to the polls on election day he will have a very good chance, providing he is running."

"Can you say anything of the race question?"

"It looks in the face to be a mixed issue."

"How could it be settled?"

"By killing all the politicians."

The next morning the 500 words special had shrunk to two lines containing the information that "Chauncey Depew passed through Waycross yesterday. He expects to gain 105 pounds in Florida."

A Hen Tending to Kittens.

A wonderfully ambitious bantam hen is owned by the Register of Deeds of Ionia county, at his home in Sebewa, Mich. The hen has adoped a litter of kittens, and cares for them with the most unremitting solicitude. Let a prowling dog approach and try to worry her brood, and he is most thoroughly hen-pecked; a grown cat is handled with the same devoted courage, while in times of peace the little hen covers the kittens with her wings and keeps them as warm and comfortable as ever she could a brood of her own hatching.—[Courier-Journal.

STYLE OUT OF DOORS.

GAY COLORS AND SWAYING FORMS

Fads and Fancies That Dame Fashion Smiles Upon—A Bright April Afternoon in New York—Gorgeous Gowns.

[Written for THE BLADE by Ellen Osborne. Copyrighted, 1890.]

THIS is the time of year when we revel in what Emerson calls "the glory of the way." Even in the city streets there is a faint passing aroma from the fluttering skirts of April. The air tastes of the salt tide, of "brownbillies and daffydowndillies" and boxhedges in somebody's old-fashioned and forgotten garden. Every woman wears a jonquil in her buttonhole and every man a bunch of violets. It is blue spring weather, with a fluttering of tender leaves in the air and a tricksy wind that jokes with us as we crowd the pavements smiling and in our best gowns. It takes but an hour of sunshine to woo us out of doors. Every bright afternoon the miles upon

THE SPRING PELERINE.

miles of houses empty their swarming human contents into the streets and from the east and the west and the north and south steady, persistent currents of women flow toward the avenues and surge up and down Broadway in a great unorganized, spontaneous Spring parade.

A 3 o'clock the spectacle is fascinating. It is a panorama of brilliant colors and swaying forms. New York women are not often beautiful take them individually, but in the mass they have a proud carriage and an easy graceful confidence that is inspiring. They move as if they owned the world. Starting at Washington Square I walked up the avenue yesterday and in fifteen minutes my eyes ached with looking on soft fabrics and ribbons of every color. There were Spanish laces framing faces of fine flowers that were nothing more than headdresses and faces looking out from under great shadow boxes of hats projecting far over the heads. There were toques with open crowns and having all the advantages claimed for Sam Weller's hat in the matter of ventilation and there were big Maud Muller hats and broad-brimmed Vandykes, Gainsboroughs and Rubens.

There were low-crowned hats with veils floating from one side such as our grandmothers would have looked on with approbation, and there were high-crowned English walking hats with trimmings of plaited ribbons and well calculated to hide curl papers when a girl wishes to go for a walk before she makes her toilet for afternoon. Make a note on't a is Capt. Cuttle, you can't abolish the high hat that comes down to the eyebrows as long as sea breezes are damp and hair in summer won't stay in curl. There were Spanish mantillas and Southern wallflowers, and little bonnets with strings of narrow velvet ribbon in the back and frosted, gauzy-winged butterflies dipping their beaks into velvet flowers. There were hats with lace brims and velvet crowns and hats with wide brims in front and no brims behind. There were bonnets in gold arabesque dotted with mock jewels, and bonnets edged with fringes of jet pendants and bonnets that were twists of tri-colored ribbons.

From Fifteenth street to Twenty-third I saw nothing but black and red and black and gold. One might have thought one's self in Cadiz or Seville, with Spanish turbans on every side and the piquant Spanish toredor. Above Twenty-third street I met only flaxen-haired brunettes in the yellow cream of Tuscany and tall blondes in mauve and purple, and one delightful brown-haired girl in a gray hat faced with violet velvet and trimmed with big orchid flowers. When I had passed Thirtieth street I began to encounter light blue and

THE PARASOL.

sometimes pearl. The gray-eyed blondes were wearing that shimmering silver that has no name, while the blondes with dark eyes and the rare velvety black eyes that remind one of pansies had put on heliotrope or lilac or lilac and white. A tall, slender dark woman, whose cheeks were flushed with exercise, wore a hat of yew green gauze with a wreath of large velvet roses in old pink. A 17-year-old wore a Tam O'Shanter in a rich peach color with a white and silver tassel. There was a good deal of Jacqueminot red and copper and fawn combined with rust color and plaids of red and amber, apricot and brown.

The prettiest woman of 30 I met, and by the way three-quarters of the best looking women one sees are about that age, wore a bonnet of gold embroidered lace with a brownish pink rose fluttering its soft petals on one side and having the thorny stem twisted about the open crown. I stood still fifteen seconds in the path of an idiotic little snapping terrier wondering why the thorns didn't catch in her hair. They did probably. The terrier wore a ribbon about its neck of mignonette green. To the ribbon was hooked a gold chain. To the chain was attached a girl. The girl wore a golden brown gauze hat without any crown and with long sprays of large flowered mignonette lying across her hair.

Somewhere in the neighborhood of the reservoir I encountered a woman with the white bang. It has taken us a number of years to make up our minds to import the white lock worn by a few fast women of Paris, but having pinned it among our love locks cunningly we have in less than a month gone a step further and bleached the whole bang. That is, half a dozen of us have done so, for the eccentricities recorded of individuals who please themselves with sensational experiments are unknown to the wellbred woman. The white bang went of course with Titian red hair that was black last season and with a black lace hat looped with gold tinsel cord.

The spectacle of Ward McAllister walking with a slight girl in a silvery blue coachman's cape started a train of moralizing. Somebody unearthed the other day Sir John Lubbock's description of a cape which was found in the tomb of a woman of the bronze age. "It is cut circular, very full, to hang in folds and hollowed in the neck." This is what it is to have ancestors. The scion of the 400 has inherited her fashions. Behind the McAllister came a tall girl whose new spring bonnet was on a level with most men's heads, and who wore a long and ample wrap of auburn brown, with sleeves gathered full on the shoulder and hanging to the feet of the graceful wearer. She, too, had ancestors, for that pendant sleeve was Norman, and William the Conqueror's followers wore it, but they had the sense to knot it up when they walked abroad, else they never could have subdued England.

A bench at the park entrance is a good seat when one is tired, though it always makes me wish I were young enough to eat peanuts to complete my beatitude. From such a seat the passing throng presented combinations of health, beauty and Worth—no pun—that became every minute more interesting. There was a constant procession of "novelties;" leg o' mutton sleeves from the Harleian MSS. of the time of Henry VI., "wide collars and high" from the Coventry pageants, Vandyke and gothic points from the sixteenth century, Dutch gowns with waists relegated to the arm-pits, and skirts short, full, undraped and ungored, of the school of Holbein. There were long lace scarfs, such as the Spanish senora has worn from time immemorial on birth-day festivals, and deep fringes that would have delighted dead and gone belles. There were directory coats, buttoned with reproductions of old Paris guild medals and old coins of Henry VII. and Queen Elizabeth, and one little tot who tumbled against me was done up in a top coat fastened with Louis XV. red and bronze buttons. It was like looking on at a carnival of ghosts, only the ghosts were very gay, radiant with flowers on hats and at bosoms, and very much alive.

Julia Marlowe passed me in a spring-like gown of gray bengaline, whose soft irregular draperies were caught with pink ribbons. Her hat was shirred gray tulle wreathed with green leaves, and she carried a gray tulle parasol.

A group of pretty girls, composed of Miss Heckscher, Miss Berryman, Miss Post and Miss Winthrop, walked under a group of gorgeous parasols. One was yellow polut d'esprit edged with black lace round the top and with a black lace butterfly on one gore. It was lined with yellow silk mull, and seemed to have a carved wood handle. Another was covered with black lace and velvet ribbons in alternate bands. Another was of gray crepe de chine lined with white and with a large white enamelled handle. One which I couldn't see well was knotted with a scarf of tartan plaided silk to match hat and walking gown. To watch the dome-shaped sun-shades bobbing up and down made one think of an earthquake under a lot of little Chinese pagodas.

THE GRADUATION GOWN.

It is not easy to choose any sample gowns for description. Two girls, who looked like sisters, were rather pretty and dark. They wore gray and white striped China silks, dotted with pompadour bouquets, with white embroidered collars turned back from the throat, and with hats of gray tulle with wreaths of pink roses. A striking costume worn by a not striking woman was a redingote of rust-colored cashmere over a skirt of peach blossom silk with leg o' mutton sleeves and a hat of rust-colored straw, trimmed with peach blossoms. Two women were bold enough to wear magenta, and were properly punished by looking hideous. An actress who knows how to dress—they don't all of them—wore rosella Amazon cloth, with large gigot sleeves and narrow standing collar over reseda green velvet. There was a confusion of pelisses and pelerines, with their little capes covering the shoulders; but the prettiest garments were the trim little jackets in dull blue or green cloth, with lapels stitched with gold thread, and showing dainty embroidered vests or plastrons, and the peasantest quarter hour was when the school girls were skipping home with their flowing locks and hats covered with crocuses and jonquils. The school girls are getting ready for graduation, and there are going to be some very pretty graduation gowns.

—FOR A DISORDERED LIVER try BEECHAM'S PILLS.

Hoops Coming.

A faint whisper has developed into a loud rumor that in certain fashionable quarters strong efforts are being made to revive the all-round crinoline. There is, of course a bitter protest against the ugly innovation from all sides. Nevertheless, it is about time that history repeated itself in this direction, judging by the past. It is now many years since hoops were discarded, so a reaction in favor of rotund skirts may be possible. Just how we strive was ever more sheath-like, and the almost inevitable result, when one extreme has been reached, is to rush to the opposite one.—[New York Post.

Supposing It is a She?

When one who loves you, and whom you love, has wounded you to the very soul, wait! Be patient and silent until the first keen suffering has worn away. In the end he will suffer more than you, because he hurt you.—[Ella Higginson in West Shore.

Purify Your Blood

The importance of thoroughly purifying the blood this Spring cannot be over-estimated. The extraordinary epidemic of "the grip" and other diseases, the unhealthful winter, close confinement in doors and carelessness in diet, have caused accumulation of impurities in the blood which must be expelled before you can feel well and strong again. The universal praise given Hood's Sarsaparilla by those who have taken it, should certainly convince you that it is the ideal Spring Medicine. It acts especially and immediately upon the blood, overcomes physical weakness, revives the healthtone and creates a good appetite. Try it this spring.

"I have taken Hood's Sarsaparilla, and heartily recommend it as a blood purifier." S. BUCKLAND, ex-Mayor of Fremont, Ohio.

There is nothing more conclusively proven than that Hood's Sarsaparilla is a radical and reliable blood purifier. If we could show you the many letters we receive from people of whom we never heard before, telling of remarkable cures of scrofula, salt rheum and all kinds and degrees of diseases of the blood, you would be as fully convinced of, and as enthusiastic over, the merits of Hood's Sarsaparilla as we are.

"My son was afflicted with the worst type of scrofula, and on the recommendation of my druggist I gave him Hood's Sarsaparilla. To-day he is sound and well, notwithstanding it was said there was not enough medicine in Illinois to effect a cure." J. CHRISTIAN, Illipolis, Ill.

N. B. If you decide to take Hood's Sarsaparilla do not be induced to buy any other.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Sold by all druggists. $1; six for $5. Prepared only by C. I. HOOD & CO., Lowell, Mass.

100 Doses One Dollar

Sold by all druggists. $1; six for $5. Prepared only by C. I. HOOD & CO., Lowell, Mass.

100 Doses One Dollar

The Camp Fire.

[Contributions from the old soldiers are earnestly solicited by the editor of the CAMP FIRE. No matter if you cannot write a lengthy history of your lives, for we much prefer short, lively sketches, personal and historical. All communications will be attended to, and no contributor will be overlooked. We do not want anything from the records, as we are supplied with them.]

GENERAL STURGIS

And the Blundering Disaster at the Battle of Guntown, Mississippi.

I NOTICE that Comrade James D. Cook states that he has been a subscriber to THE BLADE over twenty-five years, and would like to hear from some of the "boys" concerning their experience at Guntown, Miss., along with Sturgis. I have taken THE BLADE since the close of the war, but not continuous; and can't say at present that I'm a subscriber, but my wife is. She says she couldn't well keep house without it, and as we are camped on the same "ranche" I never fail to read what the "boys" have to say in the Camp Fire. Yes, comrade, I was with Sturgis at Guntown, Miss., and if I'm not mistaken it was June 10, 1864. I have always had a delicacy in giving my experience of that memorable, blundering disaster. However, I thought in the onset of the battle, and as late as the middle of the afternoon, that we were progressing finely—just knocking the Johnnies out every round, and didn't see the matter quite as we could about 5 o'clock p. m., when I discovered that Sturgis was sending up his troops by small details (at no time exceeding a brigade) to confront Forest's entire army. And he continued to persist in this mode of warfare until about half of his command was killed and captured. And had it not been for Gen. Grierson, of Illinois, and Col. E. F. Winslow, of the 4th Iowa Cav., who took in the situation and at once placed the remainder of the command in a repelling position, you and I would have either been numbered with the heroes of the past, or have "taken a walk" to that place whence but very, very few returned—Andersonville. The most interesting part of this affair that I noticed was covering the rear on the retreat from the battle field to Memphis, Tenn., which was done principally by the 10th Mo. and 3d and 4th Iowa Cav., the rebs following us like that many yellow-tan hounds after a fox, clamoring for the remainder of us. But we kept them at bay, and punished them severely at intervals, while Sturgis gallantly led the advance. Some of the boys said that he preached Memphis two days before the command did. But I cannot vouch for this assertion, as I have never seen him since the evening of the first day's fight.—J. A. HUMBLE, Co. D, 4th Iowa Cav.

EVERY MAN

Did His Duty—They Gobbled the Johnnies at Night.

EDITOR CAMP FIRE—I wish to correct one error in comrade J. B. Stouffer's account of the capture of Col. Nusom and his command at Clifton, Tenn., January 20, 1863. His general statement is correct; but he omitted to mention Co. A. Lieut. Dean and fifteen men of Co. A boarded that old scow and landed, as he said, just at the upper end of town, by an old saw mill. We were assigned to the center detachment, with Capt. Newel, and with him went down the main street on the run. Our objective point was the hotel and surrounding buildings, occupied by the officers and 25 men. It was here the firing was done that Comrade Stouffer said was "not so successful as his party." While we met some resistance by the rebel officers, and Capt. Newell was wounded by Col. Nusom, a shot from my bunkmate, C. H. Johnson, dropped the rebel, causing the loss of his right arm at the shoulder. A rebel lieutenant fired out of the hotel window, but a volley from our Colt's rifles and a grand rush at doors and windows caused all to surrender; not one escaped. We ordered every man out just as they were. Many a good laugh did we boys enjoy at those Johnnies to see them making a hasty toilet on the sidewalk, as we threw out their clothing promiscuously. A party of 30 rebels that came in the evening before and camped in the outskirts of town, made their escape, but left their horses and arms. A new building, and is now to be used as a hospital, was where the negroes stacked their guns that I asked them if they had any. One of them took from the inside pocket of his coat nearly a whole pig and handed it to me, and I imagine he thought "good bye" as he did so; but I took a chew from the pig and handed it back. Sergt. King told me to take them back to the works. He then inquired of them the direction of the next rifle pit, and he and the others started in the direction indicated, but I never knew the results. I would like to hear from those two guilty Johnnies through the Camp Fire.—A. B. WARNER, Co. B, 12th Ill. Inft.

EPISCOPALIANS.

The Southern Lady's Definition Not Complimentary to the Yankee Soldier.

EDITOR CAMP FIRE—While my regiment was camped at Bridgeport, Ala., a few of us boys succeeded in getting a pass from our captain to go "outside the lines." One of the boys, whom I will call George, and who was a son of the Episcopal church, accompanied us. After wandering around a while, we came upon a house where three old Southern ladies were seated on the front porch, engaged in spinning and carding cotton. After politely asking for a drink of water, we seated ourselves under some shade trees, and began talking about "this cruel war," the weather, etc. George asked one of the old ladies if there were any churches or church-members in that neighborhood. She said "thar was two or three churches, an' a rite smart sprinkle uv church-members 'round about this kentry, but since you'se comm dow hyar we'se has to quit havin' meetin's." Then George asked her if there were any Episcopalians in the neighborhood. She looked at him over the top of her spectacles and said: "I dunno but what thar is, about the cricks, fur as I was a totin' over a grist uv corn to Jones's mill tother day, I seed the kids uv some sort uv a varmint backed up against the mill, an' I couldn't imagine what kind uv a kind it was; but seein you spoke uv it, I jes' b'lieve it was the nice ur an Episcopalian." Ever after that, if we wanted to get George "put out," we needed only to ask him if he had seen the kids of an Episcopalian tacked up anywhere!—DAVID BERGAN, Co. K, 135th Ind. V. I.

PEACHTREE CREEK.

A Comrade Writes About the Battle in Answer to "R. S.," 129th Ill.

EDITOR CAMP FIRE—The battle opened on the extreme left, and also pretty well to the right of our lines at the same time. Our division (the 2d, 4th A. C.) was on the extreme left, and in the morning the 100th Ill. and 57th Ind., of Wagner's Brig., were thrown forward as skirmishers. The 100th moved along the edge of heavy timber and underbrush in open field, and the 57th were on the right, in the timber. We charged the rifle pits and drove the rebels out and followed them about a half mile, when we halted and the rebels passed out of sight. About half a mile in front, and at the edge of the woods, was a fort, and an order came to the 100th to send one commissioned officer and two men to investigate the fort, and if there were any forces there the men would have to surrender. I was one of the detail, and lucky for us there was nothing in the fort. We returned, but a few minutes when we heard the bugler sounding

Question Bureau.

Rules.—1.—Do not send more than three queries at one time. All questions, to receive attention, must be on separate sheets from business letters or articles for other departments, written on one side of the paper only, and the true name and address must be given. If requested, the name and address will not be published.

2.—Do not ask us where you can sell anything, or where you can buy anything. Such requests are advertisements, and must be paid for.

3.—No addresses will be given, either of business firms or of persons, in reply to requests. To do so would be to give them free advertising.

4.—Do not ask whether any business, company or individual is reliable. We will not reply.

5.—This department is intended to answer only such queries as are of *general* interest to the masses of the READER'S readers; hence we will not waste space in answering questions that are not.

6.—We can not give space to mathematical problems, puzzles, etc., nor will we decide bets.

7.—No replies by mail, under any circumstances.

Pension Questions.

A. E. M., Union City, Mich.: "1.—If a soldier enlisted, afterward deserted, and then enlisted, served five months, and was then honorably discharged, will the former transaction make any difference with getting a pension for disabilities incurred during the time covered by the discharge certificates? 2.—Can a mother get a pension for a son, on whom she was dependent, if her husband is still living? and how dependent must she be?"

1.—The soldier is considered in continuous desertion, even through his second service, unless he enlisted the second time within 90 days after deserting. See article 20, rules of the War department. 2.—Dependence in whole or in part is sufficient.

W. L. S., French, Ky.: "I was in the 40th Kentucky; never received any bounty. I am told a bill has been passed for the benefit of Kentucky soldiers. Please tell me about it."

One-year enlistments at the time you entered service are not entitled to bounty.

Veteran, Ligonier, Pa.: "Can a soldier drawing a disability pension secure the benefits of the dependent pension bill? Can a soldier who is drawing both have a disability pension increased?"

A. A. A., Toledo, O.: "Should the two pension bills or either one pass, will it add to the pensioner who is now getting a pension or not?"

O. P. F., Vermontville, Mich.: "Will those who are now drawing pensions be entitled to the benefits of the service pension bill, if it becomes a law?"

To the above three queries, we reply that it depends on whether Congress in discussing and enacting the bill, excludes those now drawing invalid pensions, or allows them to draw both. It is impossible to answer, until the final form of the bill is known; and that can not be done till it is passed. As the dependent bill stands now, a pensioner can take pension under which he may choose, but never under both.

R. O. L., Philomath, Ore.: "How much money has been paid to the soldiers, widows and orphans of the war of 1861, in the aggregate? 2.—Is there more money paid to widows and orphans than to soldiers?"

1.—On account of pensions for the late war, the United States has paid about $1,000,000,000, so far. 2.—No.

The "Green Goods" Game.

Y. Z. asks: "What should a person, who is receiving circulars from a counterfeiting company, and who is desirous of exposing it to the authorities of the United States, do in order to secure its speedy capture? Have any original plates been taken from the Treasury department by any former workmen in the engraving bureau at Washington? If so, have any bills from those plates ever worked their way back to the treasury for redemption?"

You can do nothing, except to inclose the circulars to Inspector Byrnes, Police Department, New York city. The headquarters of the "green goods" men are in New York, but they mail their letters at small postoffices within a few miles of that city, chiefly from New Jersey. No plates have ever been stolen from the Treasury department by anybody, nor is it possible. Each note has to go through the press at least four times, to receive impressions from different plates, and be numbered. Each process is in the charge of different men, and it is impossible that all the plates used on one note should be stolen without all the principal force being in the collusion. The workmen are not allowed to leave the building during the day, nor in the evening until every plate is returned to the proper officer and been locked in the vaults, the impossibility of theft of even one plate must be apparent. Not only this, but the paper is made specially, and it is as difficult to steal even one sheet as to steal the plates. Furthermore, there is a secret about the numbering and lettering of the notes, by which there is not one chance in a thousand that a counterfeiter could get them correct; and this alone would betray an irregular note, even if printed from real plates. No notes have ever been presented of the sort you mention, notwithstanding the assertions of the "green goods" men in their circulars, and forged newspaper clippings. Your inquiry about THE BLADE staff will not be answered.

Government Bonds.

M. A. C., Princeton, Ky.: Here is a complete list of all the various kinds of notes (not bonds) issued by the United States government, the dates when authorized and rates of interest thereon:

NOTES.	AUT.	Rates of Interest.
Treasury notes of 1861	March 2, 1861	6 per cent
Demand notes	July 17, 1861 to Feb. 12, 1862	No interest
7-30s of 1861	July 17, 1861 to July 17, 1864	7 3-10 per cent
Fractional currency	July 17, 1862 to March 3, 1863	No interest
1 year notes of 1863	June 30, 1864	
2 year notes of 1863	March 3, 1863	5 per cent
Compound interest notes	March 3, 1861 to June 30, 1864	6 per cent
7-30s of 1864	June 30, 1864 to March 3, 1865	7 3-10 per cent
3 per cent certificates	March 3, 1867 to July 25, 1868	3 per cent
Legal-tender certificates	June 8, 1872	No interest
Gold certificates	March 3, 1863	No interest

The first demand notes were issued in August, 1861, and paid our salaries at Washington. They were received with reluctance, and the merchants and shopkeepers endeavored to discredit them. Railroad corporations refused them in payment for fares and freight, and lending banks in the city of New York refused to receive them except as special deposits. The secretary of the Treasury and other officers signed a paper to accept them in payment of salaries. The first notes (greenbacks) were of the date of March 10, 1862, and there was printed on the back the following words: "This note is a legal tender for all debts, public and private, except duties on imports and interest on the public debt, and is exchangeable for United States 6 per cent bonds, redeemable at the pleasure of the United States after five years."

To Tell the Week-Day of Any Date.

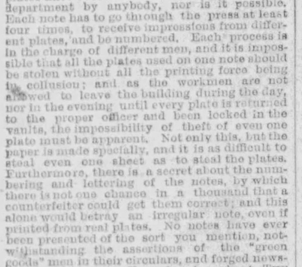
Student, Providence, R. I., sends the following method for telling the day of the week on which any date fell, or will fall. We have tested it only partially, but hope the readers of the BUREAU will give it a full trial, and report on its reliability:

Take the last two figures of the year, add a quarter of this, disregarding the fraction; add the date of the month, and to this add the figure in the following list:

January	3	July	2
February	6	August	5
March	1	September	1
April	2	October	3
May	4	November	6
June	0	December	1

Divide the sum by 7, and the remainder will give the number of the day of the week, count

SYRUP of FIGS



ONE ENJOYS

Both the method and results when Syrup of Figs is taken; it is pleasant and refreshing to the taste, and acts gently yet promptly on the Kidneys, Liver and Bowels, cleanses the system effectually, dispels colds, headaches and fevers and cures habitual constipation. Syrup of Figs is the only remedy of its kind ever produced, pleasing to the taste and acceptable to the stomach, prompt in its action and truly beneficial in its effects, prepared only from the most healthy and agreeable substances, its many excellent qualities commend it to all and have made it the most popular remedy known.

Syrup of Figs is for sale in 50c and $1 bottles by all leading druggists. Any reliable druggist who may not have it on hand will procure it promptly for any one who wishes to try it. Do not accept any substitute.

CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO.
SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.
LOUISVILLE, KY. NEW YORK, N.Y.

SPRING

SPRING HUMORS, whether itching, burning, bleeding, scaly, crusted, pimply or blotchy, whether of the skin, scalp, or blood, with loss of hair, whether simple, scrofulous, or hereditary, from infancy to age, are NOW speedily, permanently, and economically cured by that greatest of all known humor cures, the

Cuticura Resolvent

A skin and blood purifier of incomparable purity and curative power. An acknowledged specific of world-wide celebrity. Entirely vegetable, safe, innocent, and palatable. Effects daily more great cures of skin, scalp, and blood humors than all other skin and blood remedies before the public. Safe greater than the combined sales of all other blood and skin remedies.

Sold everywhere. Price, $1. POTTER DRUG AND CHEMICAL CORPORATION, Boston.

Send for "How to Cure Spring Humors."

HUMORS

ting Sunday 1, Monday 2, etc. When there is no remainder the day will be Saturday, etc.

Alonzo Example, Lake March 19, 1890. Take 90, add 22, add 19, add 6. This gives 137, which divided by 7 leaves a remainder of 4, which is the number of the day, or Wednesday.

Newspaper Stamps.

N. A. H., Ferry, Pa., asks: "Is there such a stamp as a ½60 newspaper stamp? If there is please state its use fully."

There is, and quite a number of others. Postage on newspapers to regular subscribers is one cent per pound, which must be prepaid by the publisher, or by this purpose a complete series of newspaper stamps is issued, entirely different from letter stamps. They are of the following denominations:

½ cent, 2c., 3c., 4c., 5c., 6c., 8c., 10c., 12c., 24c., 36c., 48c., 60c., 72c., 84c., 96c., $1.92, $3, $6, $9, $12, $24, $36, $48 and $60.

The newspapers are weighed, and the publisher pays the postage. The postmaster gives him a receipt, and the stub contains the date, number of pounds, price, etc. The postmaster attaches to the stub newspaper stamps to the full value of the postage paid. These stubs are sent to the Postoffice department, where they are credited to the postmaster, who is charged with all newspaper stamps issued to him. The plan is thus a check on possible thefts of newspaper postage.

The Flag Over School-houses.

F. M. B., Plymouth, Mich.: We repeat, the raising of the American flag on schools was common during the war, and nobody is entitled to any particular credit for it. We, however, publish what you send, as a matter of courtesy:

"During the early fall of 1861, Mrs. Moffat, of Fort Huron, Mich., advanced the idea through the press that the raising of the stars and stripes should be adopted by every school district in the United States, and a flag staff be erected on every school-house, or on the school grounds, where it is not practicable to erect it on the school-house. She also wrote to the secretary of War on the subject, and the papers of Fort Huron and Detroit published his reply, which favored and recommended the carrying out of Mrs. Moffat's idea. Every school building of Detroit has been provided with a flag, and but very few school-houses in the surrounding villages and country but that now has a flag floating in the breeze."

The United States Bank.

H. S. C., Pelouse City, Wash.: The first United States bank was chartered by Congress in 1791, in accordance with the advice of Alexander Hamilton, secretary of the Treasury under Washington. The capital was $10,000,000 in 25,000 shares of $400 each; any person might be a shareholder. The charter was granted to March 4, 1811. The regulations of the charter were stringent. Its notes were redeemable in coin, and receivable for payments to the United States. It was located at Philadelphia, with branches in other cities. Congress in 1811 refused to re-charter it, and it went out of existence. During the war of 1812, the finances of the country were in a terrible condition, and in 1816 the second bank of the United States was chartered, with $35,000,000 capital, in 350,000 shares of $100 each, the charter to extend until March 3, 1836. President Jackson vetoed the bill for its re-charter in 1832, and the bank, on the expiration of its charter, obtained a charter from the state of Pennsylvania as a state bank, but closed up its affairs in 1840.

Old Coins.

J. M. M., Hugging, Mo.: The silver quarter of 1818, with head to left, if in good condition, is worth 45 cents to dealers. The second coin you mention, dated 1776, is an English one of the reign of George III. The half dime is Spanish coin of the reign of Charles III. Neither is worth more than the silver in it. American collectors pay no premium for such pieces, nor for the English lourpenny, sixpence or shilling you mention, nor for the Mission, 25-centesimo piece, or the French 50-centime piece of Napoleon III.

H. E. S., Smith Center, Kan.: The coin is an English sixpence. Its value is 12 cents, but it will probably only pass for a dime. It bears no premium. See answer above.

T. F. L., Austin, Minn.: You should not ask us to give addresses of dealers in old coins. It is advertising matter; and if those dealers desire to reach THE BLADE'S readers, they must advertise in its advertising columns.

Russia.

E. L. B., Mt. Pleasant, Ia.: The government of the Russian Empire is an unlimited monarchy. The emperor or Czar, has entire power, there being no legislative body, as we understand the term. The council of state embraces the legislative, judicial and executive powers. The Senate is the high court of justice for the empire. The Holy Synod controls religious affairs, the Czar being head of the church. The fourth great board of government is the Committee of Ministers, divided into nine departments, and managing the Court, Foreign affairs, War, the Navy, the Interior, Public Instruction, Finance, the Crown domain and Public works.

Henry W. Longfellow.

L. E., Hunter, O.: 1.—Henry Wadsworth Longfellow was born at Portland, Me., on Feb. 27, 1807. He graduated at Bowdoin college in 1825, at the age of 18. He was made Professor of Modern Languages and Literature at Bowdoin college on the next four years preparing for his duties, in Germany, France, Spain and Italy. He assumed the chair in 1830, and held it till 1835. His poems during that time had given him a front rank among poets. In 1836 he was appointed Professor of Modern Languages at Harvard, which position he held till 1854, when he resigned it. He died March 24, 1882. 2.—A recipe for polishing horns was given a few weeks ago.

Traitor Arnold's Family.

G. W. H., Charleston, W. Va.: Benedict Arnold's first wife died June 19, 1775. He had three sons by her. Two of them lived in Upper Canada, married, and left respectable families. The oldest son died in the West Indies at the age of 27. Arnold's second wife survived him and died in London, August 24, 1804, aged 44 years. There were four sons and one daughter of this marriage. Three sons were in the public service, and all had honorable careers in England and the colonies.

"Highwines" and "Cologne Spirits."

W. C., Streator, Ill.: Spirits that contain over 60 per cent of alcohol are called highwines or common spirits; those containing 90 per cent of alcohol are called "cologne spirits," the name whisky being usually given to the product of a former distillation containing about 50 per cent by weight of alcohol. Spirits in bond is that placed in a United States bonded warehouse, and should be up the standard of the class to which it belongs.

Quicksilver.

Student, Leadville, Colorado: Quicksilver is found native in globules scattered through masses of rock and in an ore called cinnabar, of which it forms 86 per cent when pure. But most rock of this kind contains from 2 to 10 per cent of quicksilver. The cinnabar is in itself usually pure, and the low per cent of quicksilver is occasioned by the amount of sterile rock mixed with it, which varies in character and appearance.

A Timber Query.

A. G. M., Golden City, Ark., writes: "I have a claim of government land, but it is not a homestead. Can I make logs or boards on the land from the timber and take them and use them on another man's land in another county, or can I use or dispose of the timber?"

Apply to the United States land agent in whose district you are.

"Old War Songs."

A great many persons are writing to us to publish certain songs, which have been given already in THE BLADE, under the head, "Old War Songs," within the past year. We can not republish, in any case; so don't ask it.

We have this week requests for "Marching Through Georgia," "Hail Columbia," "The Merrimac and Monitor," and "All Quiet Along the Potomac," all of which have been published.

Unanswered Questions.

The following questions either come under Rules 3 or 5, or ask for information we have not at hand:

Telegrapher, Lynnville, Pa.; D. H. H., Greenfield, Ark.; Schoolgirl, Hillsboro, O.; Mrs. G., Butler, Ind., and C. H., East Tawas, Mich.

Miscellaneous.

C. D. W., Selden, Kan.: Consult a school text book on physiology.

J. L., Jerseyville, Ill.: We do not publish the Question Bureau in book form.

I. C. N., Mapleton, Kan.: We have not the amount of circulation per capita in 1860.

I. B. L., Tiffin, O.: We know of no such institution outside of Cleveland and Cincinnati.

R. W. S., Fostoria, O.: We gave the population of Toledo in a recent number of the Bureau.

B. W., Layland, O.: In the Bureau for April 3 you will find all about West Point cadetships. We cannot republish.

J. F., Cumming, Iowa: We cannot find the poem you mention unless you give us the date of the paper containing it.

E. C., Lottsville, Pa.: In fourth-class postoffices, the postmaster gets the box-rent. In all others, the government gets it.

M. S., Cassville, Mo.: Refer your question concerning an adopted child to some lawyer. We do not know the law of Missouri.

B. C. M., Verdella, Mo.: We cannot get up the utterances against the soldiers, of which you speak. They would fill up a big book.

C. A. F., Cambridge, O.: "Come Forth" is, or will be, published in book form. Read Rule 2 above. Get a bookseller to order it for you.

Mrs. S. Odneal, Harris, Mo., writes: "My husband has been a subscriber to THE BLADE for 42 years." He is among our oldest subscribers, therefore.

J. C. W., Middletown, Del.: Send your stories to the publisher, including postage for return, if unavailable, and request return if not used.

Comus, San Jacinto, Ind.: The supervisor for the third Census (not Congressional) district of Indiana, is Sidney Conger, Flat Rock, Shelby county, Ind.

G. W. M., Dennison, Tex.: The treaty of Amiens, in 1802, established peace between England, France, Spain and Holland. Consult a good life of Napoleon.

H. E. S. M., Rochester, N. Y.: We published all about the international date line and standard time meridians in full about three months ago, and cannot repeat.

H. G. M., Russellville, Tenn.: 1.—We cannot take space to discuss Ingersoll's converties on religious topics. Don't ask us such questions. 2.—We don't know whether Senator Blair used the words you mention, and don't see that it makes the slightest difference whether he did or not.

J. V., Hudson, Kan.: 1.—No government bonds were issued during the war that were not payable in coin. 2.—Our credit was not good with foreign money-lenders during the inflation times of the war and succeeding years.

M. E., Galesville, Ill.: 1.—Each manufacturer has his own formula for chewing gum, and we are not advised concerning them. 2.—The more nearly vertical the sun is, the more rays fall on a given area, and hence more heat.

S. A. S., Wildwood, Fla.: Do you not see that to answer your question, or to publish your request, would be to give the manufacturer of the "——— battery" a first-class advertisement? We cannot, for that reason, do either.

W. R. F., Harlan, Iowa: While it is a fact that a copyright on your volume of poems will not cover those which have been previously published, we think you run no risk of trouble by including them in the proposed volume.

W. D. A., Frankfort, Kan.: If you melt or hammer a $20 gold piece, the bullion is worth $20 at the mint, unless the piece was much worn. We are compelled to decline to discuss political or currency questions here. Write to the editorial department of THE BLADE, not to the Bureau.

M. A. C., Princeton, Ky.: We are unable to give exact figures, but the paper money inflation during the war was gradually gotten over by some contraction of the excessive paper currency, aided largely by the improvement of the national credit following the success of the Union cause. A period of inflated currency is just like a drunkard's debauch; he feels awfully ill while he is recovering from it. The notes spoken of circulated as money. They were not bonds.

E. J. D., Crestline, Kan.: An abstract thing is one which you can not take cognizance of by any of your five senses. For instance, you know what justice is; yet you can not touch justice with your fingers, nor hear it, nor see it, nor taste it, nor smell it. Hence it is not a concrete object; it is an abstract one. The idea of justice is an abstract idea. Do you understand the distinction between concrete and abstract now?

D. S, Fort Robinson, Neb.: Your "slot" machine to sell postal cards, that cannot be cheated, might prove remunerative in cities. The plan would be to sell 4 postal cards for 5 cents. Machines are in operation now in the Eastern cities which, on dropping a nickel in the slot, pass out two 2-cent stamps. The company which owns them keeps the machines supplied, and the hotel men are glad to give them room, to avoid the constant requests for stamps to the clerks. The profit is in the one cent on every two stamps.

Everybody Knows

That at this season the blood is filled with impurities, the accumulation of months of close confinement in poorly ventilated stores, workshops and tenements. All these impurities and every trace of scrofula, salt rheum, or other disease may be expelled by taking Hood's Sarsaparilla, the best blood purifier ever produced. It is the only medicine of which "100 doses one dollar" is true.

HERE AND THERE.

Any Hat You Please.

There is no fixed rule in millinery, or guidance for choice. Provided the headcovering is becoming, and not altogether outre, a woman may wear just what pleases her best. Most of the new hats have flaring brims, yet with so very little at the back of the head that often there is nothing visible except the coils of hair of the wearer, a sort of monster "lean-to" turning towards the front. The brims on some of the shapes measure over a quarter of a yard directly in front. When the hat is of net, it is usually trimmed lace, the effect is very becoming to some faces, but eccentric in appearance it certainly is at all times.—[New York Post.

VERSE AND WORSE.

Much machine poetry is started with a spring.—[Terre Haute Express.

The poet soars, says Byron. He does, indeed; and he's sore's the old Harry when his verses are rejected.—[Texas Siftings.

A St. Louis poet says it rests him to write sonnets. But he should remember that he makes those who read them very tired.—[Yonkers Statesman.

"Never was so put out in all my life," said the tramp ruefully, just after the hired man had slid him coldly out at the back door gate.—[Somerville Journal.

New Use for a Silver Dime.

St. Paul has originated a new fad of its own in one case instead of borrowing from the effete East. It consists in cutting out the center of a silver dime, using the rim for a ring and attaching to it by a little chain the rounded center, which is adorned by the monogram of the giver. The society young lady, the schoolgirl and members of the theatrical profession have been caught by this seemingly clumsy arrangement. Traveling men have bought them to send away, and business men have purchased them for gift trifles.

Said a jeweler on Wabasha street yesterday: "I have sold 1,500 since the middle of December." He first thought it would seem that the ring would be brittle, being cut from a coin which is stamped out, but it is not. Any one who will explain its attraction can solve any riddle, but it's a craze at present.—[St. Paul Pioneer Press.

Are Glasses Growing Common?

A St. Paul optician answers in the affirmative. "I do not mean," said he to a *Pioneer Press* reporter, "that the human eyesight is growing poorer, but the reason is as follows: Many people who formerly suffered from headaches, for which physicians prescribed in vain, found upon consulting oculists that their suffering was due to strained eyes and have found relief in glasses. You can imagine how a trouble in the eyes would irritate all the nerves of the body even to the extent of bringing about poor health. By the way, there is a foolish notion existing in the public mind that many people wear glasses to improve their looks. In all the time I have been in business, and it's a long one, I never saw such a case of idiotic trifling with the valuable possession of sight."

The Congo State.

Fourteen new stations have been established by the Congo state along the river and between the equator and the mouth of the Aruwimi. The purpose of these is to suppress conflicts among the natives, human sacrifices, cannibalism, and the slave trade. Orders have been issued to capture all canoes laden with slaves that come from the Lulonge, Mohangi, and other rivers. The slaves have learned that if they can reach the stations where the blue flag of the Congo state floats they at once become free men. At Bangala there is a village of these liberated men, and the state officers are training them to make brick and to perform other work.

SICK HEADACHE

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS.

Positively Cured by these Little Pills.

They also relieve Distress from Dyspepsia, Indigestion and Too Hearty Eating. A perfect remedy for Dizziness, Nausea, Drowsiness, Bad Taste in the Mouth, Coated Tongue, Pain in the Side, TORPID LIVER, &c. They regulate the Bowels and prevent Constipation and Piles. The smallest and easiest to take. Only one pill a dose. Purely vegetable. Price 25 cents.

CARTER MEDICINE CO., Prop'rs, New York

AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

TWO BRILLIANT SOCIAL EVENTS.

The Army and Navy as Guests of Honor—Mrs. McKee's Dancing Party—The East Room Filled With Dancers—Many Beautiful Women Present.

Special Correspondence of The Blade.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 24.—The supplemental social season which began with Easter, and the swell breakfast that was given by Secretary and Mrs. Noble on that day has proved even more brilliant in some respects than before Lent. This is certainly true so far as the entertainments at the White House are concerned. The regular official receptions and dinners which were postponed on account of the series of sad disasters, which are too well remembered to require enumeration now, have been all held except the reception to the general public, and have attracted greater crowds than any of those held heretofore. There has also been a greater apparent warmth in the bearing of the President and Mrs. Harrison and their assistants in this line and this has been noticeable and pleasantly commented upon. The ladies of the official circle seem to have had the cloud of gloom and foreboding which oppressed them if the winter lifted, and they have entered into the enjoyments of their social duties with a zest and pleasure that has been very attractive.

The Army and Navy Reception.

On Tuesday night the army and navy were the guests of honor at the White House, and there was a dazzling display of gilt buttons, epaulets and gold braid which, with the brilliant toilettes of handsome women, made a kaleidoscopic effect in the corridors and in the crowded East room. This spacious apartment was handsomely decorated, the flags of the navy and army being draped over the mirrors and doors. The mantels were bedecked with green ferns, upon one appearing three large stars in white carnations. The other had anchors made of the same flowers, with ropes of vi[illegible]. These were the only emblematic designs in the room. The usual beautiful array of palms and crotons filled in the windows and made corner nooks for the flirtatiously inclined. In the blue room the mirrors were draped with smilax, and a large star in red carnations appeared on one, while opposite an anchor was displayed, made also of red carnations. The room was so crowded there was room for only a few palms.

When the band played "Hail to the Chief," the receiving party started down the stairway, the President and Mrs. Harrison leading the way together, as usual. Next came the Vice President and Mrs. Morton. Mrs. Windom and Mrs. Wanamaker were not present. The Postmaster General escorted Mrs. Miller; the Attorney General was with Miss Windom; Secretary Windom accompanied Miss Kingman, of New York, who is his guest; Secretary and Mrs. Proctor went in together, and Secretary and Mrs. Noble, and Secretary and Mrs. Rusk were also together.

Mrs. Harrison wore a new gown of white satin. The train and body were of plain satin, and there were panels of white brocade and a front of white crepe sewn with gold and pearl embroidery, and bordered with white ostrich feathers. The bodice was V-shaped, and edge with gold embroidery. She carried a bunch of white lilacs.

Mrs. Morton wore a combination of pale mauve and white. A bodice with a jacket front was of mauve silk. The back was made with straight sashes falling over a white rose-brocaded train. The front of the petticoat was covered with gathered white silk net having two ribbon-edged ruffles. The bodice was decolleté, and a necklace composed of three rows of pearls and a buckle-shaped fastening was worn.

There was an unusual number of pretty girls behind the line, and many handsome women. Mrs. McKee looked especially pretty in a gown of black net, with Vandyked petticoat of gold embroidery. Mrs. Russell Harrison wore cream colored satin, with front and bodice covered with white net, embroidered in gold and a flower pattern. A diamond necklace completed the toilet.

The White House Dance.

The great sensation of the week, and in fact the sensation of the season, was the dance given at the Executive Mansion by Mrs. McKee on Wednesday evening. The cards simply announced, "Mrs. McKee, At Home, Wednesday, April 23, 1890," and no mention was made of dancing, but it was unauthoritatively given out that there would be dancing, and there was. Mrs. McKee is a very charming woman, and the President's daughter-in-law, Mrs. Russel Harrison, is one of the prettiest young women in Washington, and they both realized that something must be done to thaw the frigid atmosphere that hung about the social executive circle. How long it took them to work the President into consenting to this dance I am unable to say, but I am told that they have been a long time in bringing the affair about. The dance has taken place, and it was a most charming event. The company was not over large, but the party was a brilliant one, and the East Room made a glorious dancing hall. It was the first dance given in the White House, so I am told, since Nellie Grant was a girl, and this fact alone was sufficient to set the tongue of society wagging at a great rate. Those who were invited now consider themselves of the elect, and those who were not are correspondingly despondent. But I understand that next winter there will be more of those executive dances, and that those who failed to receive invitations to this will have their turn. The "set" that was given Tuesday night at Miss Shopard, the daughter of Col. Elliott Shepard, of New York, and she stood with Mrs. McKee and Mrs. Russell Harrison to receive the guests, although all were first received by the President and Mrs. Harrison. Mrs. McKee wore a gown of white mousseline de soie and apple green velvet. The petticoat was of white and the bodice was formed of the velvet. There were rows of green ribbon down the skirt, and sashes of green at the back. Mrs. Russell Harrison wore pale green tulle with a satin bodice, covered with silver embroidery. One side of the skirt was covered with garlands of pink roses. Miss Shepard looked lovely in a gown of white gauze with embroidered water lilies on the skirt. The bodice was made in the shape of lily petals, and lilies were usod about the edge of the corsage. A necklace of pearls completed her toilet.

Col. Shepard gave each of the ladies a handsome ribbon-tied bouquet. Mrs. Harrison, lilies of the valley and pink roses; Mrs. McKee, Jacqueminot roses, and Mrs. Russell Harrison, Baroness Rothschild.

The programmes were dainty white satin ribbons, inclosed in white boards, bearing the United States coat-of-arms in gilt. There were ribbon favors for the ladies of different colors, red, white, and blue. At the top was a rose bud and at the botton the coat-of-arms and the date. The men had similar favors in smaller ribbons.

The marine band was stationed in the small hall, and when they played the waltz from "The Brigands" at 10 o'clock Mr. and Mrs. McKee, with a turn about the room, started the ball. There were twelve numbers on the programme. There was promonading through the smaller rooms and corridor in the intervals and many trips to the dining-room, where an elaborate supper was served. The table was decorated in pink, with roses and pink-shaded candelabra. In the hall was a table where lemonade was served.

Minor Mention.

Mr. and Mrs. Emmons Blaine are over from Baltimore visiting Secretary and Mrs. Blaine.

Mrs. Garfield is visiting her daughter, Mrs. J. Stanley Brown, in this city. Mr. and Mrs. Brown have recently purchased an estate on Kalorama place, and later on will build on the site.

The date of the wedding of Mr. Stilson Hutchins, formerly the owner of the *Post*, and Miss Rose Blake Keeling, of Baltimore, is not yet fixed, but it will be later than June. Miss Keeling is a daughter of Rev. R. J. Keeling, formerly of Washington.

Mrs. Randall is endeavoring to answer all the letters and other communications of condolence that have been received by her since the death of her husband. Many expressions of sympathy came indirectly and from persons whose addresses she does not know, and to these she desires to return thanks through the press of the country, in the names of herself and the members of her family, for their kindness and consideration in her bereavement.

All the cabinet ladies received on Wednesday, except Mrs. Blaine and Mrs. Windom, the latter being in New York.

The secretary of State gave a trip to Mount Vernon on the United States steamer Dispatch on Wednesday to a large party.

MARY HELEN.

SCIENTIFIC DROPS.

Perhaps the most powerful electric light in the world is in use in the Housholm lighthouse on the coast of Jutland. It is 2,000,000 candle-power, and is visible a distance of 40 miles. It has been recently placed in position. It is largely an experiment.

Physicians in Italy, etc., believe malaria to consist of a fungus floating in the air and soaking in the water, and likely to enter the system in much larger quantities through the water drank than through the air breathed. Hence, in malarious districts all drinking water should be boiled and then filtered.

A new miner's electric lamp, weighing only three and one-half pounds and capable of giving one and one-half candle power-light for ten hours, has been made by an English inventor. The accumulator of four cells is contained in a wooden box five and one-half inches high, in front of which, in a strong glass dome, is the lamp bulb and a reflector.

Chemists report the recent analysis of two remarkable meteorites. One, which fell last June at Mighem, Russia, contains about 5 per cent of organic matter in the shape of a yellow substance closely resembling resin, and also has about 2 per cent of what is apparently a metallic salt of a new element. The other meteorite fell at Carcote, Chili, and contains not only carbon, in organic substances soluble in ether, but also an elementary crystalline form of carbon—dull black and very hard—which is, in fact, a variety of black diamond.

Royal Musicians.

There are surprisingly many expert musicians in the royal houses of Europe. Queen Victoria and her daughter Louise play the piano and organ with great skill. The Prince of Wales knows all about playing the banjo, and his wife is an excellent pianist. The Duke of Connaught can do wonders with the flute, and the Duke of Edinburg is hardly less accomplished in handling the violin. The Czar performs famously with a silver trumpet. The Empress of Austria is one of the finest zither players on the continent. The Queen of Italy does the most difficult pieces of Italian and German composers on the piano. The Empress of Japan excels in playing the "koto," a Japanese instrument not unlike an overgrown zither.

The gifted Queen of Roumania is celebrated among her subjects for her extraordinary performance on the harp and piano. King George of Greece extracts melody from castanets and wine glasses with all the skill of a variety show artist. He plays almost equally well on the Hungarian "cymbalum," concerning which his daughter, the crown Princess Sophie, is also learning as much as two Hungarian professors of music can teach her. Prince Henry of Prussia is one of the best amateur musicians on the continent. He plays the piano and violin and is a composer of considerable reputation.

Watches.

Globular watches hold the first rank among fashionables. Even when quite small there is more room for the works than in thin cases, and they are perfectly spherical, the glass being curved to complete the circle. Some of the smallest are set all over with half pearls or turquoise; those meant to be worn in the morning are often made of black silver.

We do not see quite so many watches set in card cases and portes-monnaie as formerly, these thumb-nail timepieces being more curious than useful, and all being apt, like pneumatic clocks, to stop when you least expect it.

Paris was much surprised one fine morn-morning last week to find that all the city clocks worked in this way were stopped at a quarter before 2, and remained in this position throughout the day. The water supply had been unexpectedly cut off, owing to repairs being undertaken at the Saint Fargeau machinery was at a standstill. After all, good Geneva watches are preferable to air or water power.—[Jeweler's Weekly.

The Cost of Tying Shoestrings.

One of the managers of a big eastern knitting-mill has made a calculation that the shoestrings of a working girl will come untied on the average three times per diem, and that a girl will lose about 50 seconds every time she stoops to retie them. Most of the employes cover 10 feet, so this entails a loss of 300 seconds every day for each girl. There are about 400 girls employed in this factory, and therefore the gentleman finds that 43,800,000 seconds are wasted in the course of a year, which time, at the average rate of wages, is worth $943.17½. Orders have accordingly been issued that girls must wear only button shoes or congress gaiters under penalty of discharge.—[Detroit Tribune.

Prince Albert and the Nautches.

Quite a little storm has been raging among the "serious" portion of the English residents in Calcutta in connection with the visit of Prince Albert Victor. It appears that those who had charge of the reception arrangements actually ventured to include a performance by the dancing girls, or "nautches," in the programme of events. Scandalized at this bold design to secure the patronage of royalty for the nautch ballet, the Bishop of Calcutta publicly refused to attend the entertainment, while other worthy persons loudly complained that in subscribing toward the expenses of the royal reception they had unwittingly been made to pay for what they regarded as an unholy and objectionable performance.

A Famous Stage Family.

Georgie Drew Barrymore divides the honors of Crane's new play with the star. It is a remarkable sight to see this gifted woman doing her level best to satisfy her mother with her work—a woman who, at the age of nearly 70, is still bidding for the applause of the multitude with Jefferson and Florence at the Fifth Avenue. By the way, what a remarkable family the Drews are. Think of it, that to-night the mother is playing at the Fifth Avenue, her son John at Daly's, her son Sydney at one of the other swell theaters, and her eldest daughter is the talk of the town at the Star. What is the best part of this singular run of talent is that it is all good, and that in the whole family there has not been a bad actor or bad actress. The mother is said to be very proud of her children, but to be a merciless critic of their acting whenever she has an opportunity of seeing it.

Attractions Outside of Civilization.

Once a man has entered the wilds of Africa, says the Boston *Traveller*, civilization seems to have lost its attractiveness for him. Livingstone, the missionary and explorer, buried himself alive in the heart of Africa, and could not be induced to leave it, and died there while pursuing his work. Gen. Gordon, with a pertinacity amounting to fanaticism, held his ground at Khartoum, defying the Arab rebels and utterly refusing to seek safety until he fell a victim to treachery and overwhelming numbers. In former years, officers of the United States army, after a life in the then distant West, in the wilds of the Rocky mountains, found it difficult to break away and return to civilization, and numbers actually resigned to remain there.

A Hound and an Eagle Friends.

Dr. H. M. Beck, of Green Bay, Wis., has two pets, an eagle and a beagle hound, which are fast friends. The eagle is 4 weeks old, and seems to thoroughly enjoy the companionship of its four-footed playmate. The hound will take the eagle's tail feathers in his mouth, then seize the bird by the breast, being careful in each instance not to harm it. Then it will frisk about and try to induce the bird to engage in a frolic. All this time the eagle seems to enjoy the fun exceedingly. But once let a little black-and-tan, also owned by the doctor, come within sight of the bird of freedom and its soul is at once up in arms. He assumes a John L. Sullivan attitude, and would unquestionably make short work with the little canine if it came within reach of his powerful talons.—[Courier-Journal.

Kossuth and His Family.

Kossuth is always glad to receive visits from Americans, and is never tired of speaking of his visit to the United States. His sister, who lives with him, spent two years in an Austrian prison, and on her release, in 1851, came to this country. One of her sons died in Texas last year as a major in the United States army. He had distinguished himself during the civil war. Kossuth's two sons, Francis and Louis, are civil engineers. The one is the director of some great foundry works near Naples, while the other is chief engineer of the government Mediterranean railway lines. Both have been naturalized as Italian citizens. Both the ex-dictator and his venerable sister are perfect English scholars, their favorite author being Emerson.

As a Hair Dressing,

The first place has long been conceded to Ayer's Hair Vigor. Ladies find that this preparation imparts to the hair a beautiful gloss and a delicate and lasting fragrance. Gentlemen use it to prevent baldness, to restore faded and gray hair to its former color, and to cure troublesome humors in the scalp.

"I strongly recommend Ayer's Hair Vigor, having seen tests which have convinced me of its worth. My wife was growing gray and losing her hair rapidly, but by the use of Ayer's Hair Vigor checked the hair from falling, started a new growth, and restored her hair to its original color. The Vigor excels all other hair preparations."—J. J. Perry, Spottsylvania C. H., Va.

"Ayer's Hair Vigor is more popular among my customers than any other preparation. It is safe to say that I sell ten bottles of this to one of any other."—C. Tenzler, Weimar, Texas.

Ayer's Hair Vigor Best For the Toilet.

"Some time ago my wife's hair began to come out quite freely. Ayer's Hair Vigor not only prevented further loss of hair, but also stimulated an entire new growth. I am ready to certify to this statement before a justice of the peace."—H. Hulsebus, Lewisburgh, Ia.

"Some time ago my hair began to fade and to fall out so badly that I thought I should be bald; but the use of Ayer's Hair Vigor has restored the original color and made my hair strong, abundant, and healthy. It does not fail out any more."—Addie Shaffer, 540 Race st., Cincinnati, Ohio.

Ayer's Hair Vigor,

Prepared by DR. J. C. AYER & CO., Lowell, Mass. Sold by all Druggists and Perf

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NEW TYPE NEXT WEEK.

Next week's issue of THE BLADE will appear in an entire new dress of type. In deference to the wishes of many of our readers, we have selected a much bolder and clearer face, much easier to read, and shall in various ways improve the mechanical appearance of "the people's favorite," so as to make it still more worthy of the expressions of good-will which greet it on every hand. Meantime, send us in lists of names of persons to whom we may send sample copies. Do it now, and receive our thanks.

ROSA BONHEUR'S "HORSE FAIR."

The price of the Weekly BLADE has always been 30 cents to three-months' subscribers, as all know. We have sold an enormous number of ROSA BONHEUR'S "Horse Fair"—a magnificent colored engraving of the celebrated original painting—which has always been retailed by everybody else at 50 cents, but of which we have sent out thousands at 25 cents each. We have now ordered a supply of 10,000 copies, which we propose to *present* to new subscribers to the Weekly BLADE, who send us 30 cents each for a three-months' subscription. Remit the 30 cents, either in silver by registered mail, or by postal note, or current funds, but *not* in postage stamps; we will enter your name for the Weekly BLADE for 3 months, and send a copy by mail, postpaid, of this celebrated picture. Be *sure* to mention in your letter that you want the "Horse Fair," as otherwise it will not be sent. We hope to dispose of this 10,000 by June 10, and ask our subscribers to mention this offer to their friends, in order that they may avail themselves of it. Address all orders: "THE BLADE, Toledo, Ohio."

THE new Atlantic steamship Majestic, the latest vessel added to the White Star line, will draw an annual "subvention," or subsidy, from the British admiralty, aside from the additional large subsidy she receives from the British government for carrying the mails. The Majestic is fitted with all the necessary appliances for mounting twelve six-inch rapid fire guns, which apparatus was put in at the expense of the Admiralty. The stipulation is that in case of war the British government may take her for naval use, at a proper price. By simply putting the twelve guns in place, she will have an armament equal to that of our cruiser, the Philadelphia. Her subsidy is about $50,000 per year; and this is cheaper to Great Britain than the annual expense of keeping such a vessel in commission. The Teutonic, her sister vessel, is also fitted in the same way, and enjoys a similar annual subvention. This alone pays the owners from 2½ to 3 per cent. on the cost of the vessel. The plan is an excellent one, and there is no reason why this government should not adopt a similar policy. But when this proposition is advanced, there is a howl of outrageous abuse goes up from the free trade Democrats and mugwumps. The fool killer would find ample occupation if he should start on his rounds in the United States.

THE figures as to pay of employes on foreign and domestic railways, which are set forth in the report of CARROLL D. WRIGHT, commissioner of labor, will not give comfort to the free trader, but they will bear very careful examination. A comparison of the average daily rates of pay and yearly earnings in Great Britain and the United States may be made as follows:

Class of Employes.	Great Britain.	United States.
Engineers, per day.....	$ 1 46	$ 3 22
Firemen, per day.....	91	1 79½
Conductors, per day...	97	2 63
Switchmen, per day....	85	1 58½
Flagmen, per day.....	81	1 13
Engineers, yearly pay..	457 00	1,007 00
Firemen, yearly pay....	285 00	562 00
Conductors, yearly pay.	304 00	824 00
Switchmen, yearly pay.	266 00	471 60
Flagmen, yearly pay...	254 00	354 00

American workingmen will see that protection does protect, and will not vote to bring the earning power of the free trade Britisher into competition with his own.

THE "fair trade" (protectionist) movement in Great Britain is steadily gaining ground among the workingmen of that country. The "National Fair Trade league" and the "Workman's Association for the Defense of British Industry" have jointly issued a circular recently appealing to the wage-workers to vote only for Parliamentary candidates who are opposed to free trade. The English workmen have had enough of starvation wages, and they realize that their only chance for any large increase of wages must come through the adoption of a protective tariff. The day is rapidly coming when the Cobden club will have enough to do to retain free trade in England, without flooding this and other protectionist countries with its free trade literature. The drift of public policy in all civilized countries is toward protection, and free trade is losing ground in its strongest citadel—Great Britain.

DON INGERSOLL'S name and writings have reached far-off Burmah, as is shown by a singular story which comes from Pittsburg, to the effect that a Methodist missionary, Rev. S. R. LONG, is in that city soliciting subscriptions to purchase a printing press to take to Burmah. He says:

"We want to have the Bible and other religious books printed in the native tongue. The Hindoo priests have somehow obtained Bob Ingersoll's works and had them translated in the native language in order to convince their people that we are wrong. We must offset this and need a press to do it."

THE "American Economist" draws the following historical illustration:

"We subsidized our railroads, and we have half the railroads of the world; that has been accompanied by the cheapest transportation in the world, while England has the dearest. England, on the other hand, has subsidized its shipping, and it has half the tonnage of the world; with that has gone not only the primacy in the world's shipbuilding, but, until the Germans and French commenced subsidizing their ships, control of the world's transportation by sea, which is so necessary to its position as the chief commercial nation."

REPRESENTATIVE MCKENNA, of California, does not agree with his Republican colleagues in all respects as to the tariff bill, and the Democrats are trying to make capital out of that fact. They probably forget that in the last Congress the Democrats presented no less than four tariff bills.

MAY-DAY is looked forward to for important developments in labor circles on both sides of the Atlantic.

RUM-DRINKING AS A FACTOR IN HUMAN DEGRADATION.

The variety of liquor literature showered upon the people of Nebraska and Kansas astonishes us by its variety and amount, as shown by samples mailed us by our friends in those states; and also by the utter lack of real argument which they contain. We have just received a copy of a pseudo-paper called the *Rural Age*, dated at Chicago. It is not a real newspaper, but a campaign pamphlet, issued by the Rum Power for use in Nebraska. From certain ear-marks, we conclude that it is also one of the myriad issues of the National Distillers' printing house at Louisville, Ky. The copy before us is dated March 15, and is chiefly taken up by a long article entitled: "Pauperism. How Affected by Prohibition."

This precious screed aims to show by the census figures of 1860, 1870 and 1880 that pauperism decreased in the United States, but that its decrease was least in the three states of Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine, the only ones which had Prohibition throughout these twenty years; and after a long discussion of the returns of pauperism in these and other states, to reach the conclusion that Prohibition is favorable to the increase of paupers, and that hence pauperism does not depend upon intemperance.

We have not taken the time to compare the figures it gives with the census figures for those years to see whether they are correctly given or not, because it is not worth while. The whole strength of the argument lies in the definition of the words "pauper" and "pauperism." The census rates as "paupers" those who are maintained at the public expense in poor-houses and similar institutions, and those receiving out-door relief. The figures used in the article refer only to these. But the word "pauperism" is largely used in a general sense, to refer to the condition of the poor, whether they are maintained by their own exertions or supported by charity. Now, the argument of Prohibitionists against the Rum habit is that it reduces families which would otherwise be in comfortable circumstances to a much lower grade. They live, but on the poorest, scantiest food. The husband squanders his earnings for Rum; the wife and mother aids in the support of himself and her children by sewing, washing, and other labor; as soon as the children are old enough to earn a few cents, they are taken from school and put to work, being thus defrauded of the education and care which are theirs by right. Handicapped in childhood in the race of life, they are not likely to consider that the Rum traffic is conducive to the best interests of the people or the state, despite the assumptions of the article we are discussing.

The cry is going up all over the land that the rich are growing richer, and the poor poorer. Any observant dweller in city or village must agree that there is an increase in the number of very poor—those who live from hand to mouth, and each day provide for the needs of the body only in the smallest way that is consistent with the preservation of existence. And he will also be compelled to agree that, among this very poor class, excluding those who receive aid from the overseers of the poor or similar officials, there is a vast deal of intemperance. Rum-drinking and this dire poverty go hand in hand. The tenements of our great cities swarm with these people. It is with this class that beer-drinking has of late years made such a startling increase among women and children. Scant food, of the poorest quality, is all they can obtain; yet they go without meals in order to obtain beer, which dulls the stomach and silences its demand for nutriment. This class of people does not figure in the census reports, and the writer of the article referred to ignores it and the conditions which created it.

The tendency of intemperance is clearly toward a lower grade of civilization among the masses, a deadening of all ambition to rise in the world, to accumulate property, to give the young a better and more advantageous start in the race for life. This is an alarming tendency in a republic, where the equality of all men is adopted as the corner-stone of our civil institutions. It tends to create a chronically poor class, living from hand to mouth, intent only on the gratification of the lower and more animal instincts, with no aspirations toward a higher life, no care for intellectual and moral development, especially of the rising generation. The use of Rum has been the chief factor in this degrading tendency, and the Rum traffic should be abolished, if for no other reason, than for this alone—to stop the degradation of the race.

Nor is the article in question at all honest in eliminating from consideration the fact that the three states named are almost entirely agricultural, all with poor soil, whereon it takes the hardest labor to bring a proper return. The tendency there has been, during all the time covered by the census figures quoted, for the more energetic, the brighter class of young men, who had but little or nothing save their own brain and muscle for capital, to go West, where the fertile prairie soil far better requites the farmer's toil. Drained of this element of progress, they would be likely to show less advance than states more highly favored by nature, or where greater diversity of industry afford more numerous roads for human activity, and the easier requisition of a competence.

We thus briefly cover the ground taken by this liquor publication, to remind our friends of the West, notably of Nebraska, that there is not a professed argument advanced by the Rum Power that has not another side to it—and generally the side that is the strongest. The desperation of the Rum Power, its determination to keep Nebraska out of the Prohibition line, are betrayed by the enormous amount of this kind of literature being sent all over the state. It is not so much that the Rum Power thinks its hold upon Nebraska to be important, as it is to check the swelling tide of Prohibition. The defeat of the amendment will give added force to the cry that "Prohibition is on the wane." The fact is, that the belief in Prohibition never had so many sincere followers. The thing to do in Nebraska is to rouse the voters to a realization of the unnecessary evils that have their root in intemperance; to see that they cannot be removed as long as the open saloon is allowed; and that the only way to sweep the saloon out of existence is to outlaw it, through Prohibition, and by that act also

Pulverize the Rum Power.

GET A WATCH FREE!

The attention of all readers is directed to the offer on the Trenton watch, in the Publishers' Department, fifth page. It is an excellent watch, and none have so far been returned under our warranty. It is the very best cheap watch in the market. We have several thousands of these watches, which we bought to give away to club raisers. To any one sending us a club of ten subscribers to the Weekly BLADE, and $10, we will send one of these watches free. We did not buy them to sell, but if any subscriber wishes one, we will send him the Weekly BLADE one year, and a Trenton watch, for $8. The watch retails in the jewelry stores at $5. Get up a club; you can earn yourself a good watch in a few hours.

MR. GLADSTONE has written a letter favoring local option. The temperance agitation is increasing in Great Britain.

THE FINANCIAL SITUATION.

The discussion of silver legislation at Washington had some influence on the money market last week, but the real effect will not be felt until the bill, which appears to have been agreed upon, becomes a law. It is uncertain what changes may yet be made in the provisions of this measure, and in the meantime the conservative operators in the East will be careful in their movements, while the Western men, who believe in free silver coinage, will hesitate to buy freely until they are sure exactly how far their views are met by legislation.

In Wall street, last week, the average rate for money was 4 per cent, although there were some few loans at the high rates of 8 and 9 per cent; but these were the result of a demand at a time when the market was temporarily not well supplied. There was a discrimination against western paper which has been an important feature on the market and rates were 5 per cent for 60 to 90 day endorsed bills receivable, 5½ per cent for four months' acceptances, and 6 to 7 per cent for good single names having from four to six months to run. As to the discount rate in England and France, the Financial Chronicle says:

"The Bank of England minimum rate of discount remains unchanged at three per cent, but in consequence of the important loss of bullion and the activity in speculation and in trade, the open market rate is a little firmer than it stood last week, the quotation for 60 to 90 day bank bills being now 1⅞@1⅞ per cent. The open market rate at Paris is 2¼ per cent. The Bank of England lost £482,000 bullion during the week. This, as we are informed by a special cable to us, was due to an export principally to the Cape and to France of £497,000 and to shipments to the interior of Great Britian of £28,000, offset by receipts from Australia of £43,000. The Bank of France gained £629,000 gold this week."

The foreign exchange market was quiet and firm. The exports for the nine months ending with March last, are shown to have been $683,718,950, and the imports for the same period, $571,817,584, showing an excess of the former of $111,901,366 as against $33,558,303 for the nine months ending March 31, 1889, an improvement which is decidedly gratifying. It may be stated also that for March the excess of merchandise exports over imports is nearly $5,500,000, against only $2,718,007 in March, 1889.

The anthracite coal trade is believed to be getting into better shape, and the railroad reports for March which have been made public, show gains in earnings, particularly the Pennsylvania and Union Pacific.

THE OKLAHOMA BILL.

The conference committee of the two Houses of Congress on the Oklahoma territorial bill has modified that measure to a considerable extent. The changes made relate to the Cherokee Outlet. This is not made a part of the new territory of Oklahoma, which therefore consists simply of the tract now called Oklahoma, and the Neutral Strip, or "No Man's Land." It is provided, however, that the United States courts in Oklahoma shall exercise jurisdiction over the outlet as regards the violation of United States laws; and the bill also provides that, as soon as the government shall have acquired the title to all the Indian lands in the Outlet, it shall become part and parcel of the territory of Oklahoma, without further Congressional action.

It is inevitable that the lands held by the Cherokees in the Outlet must be soon opened to settlement. The pressure of intending settlers on all sides is so great that the Indians doubtless realize this fact, and it will have its influence in leading them to accept the offers by the government of a fair price for the land. There are 6,022,754 acres, and the United States has already offered $1.25 per acre, or $7,113,837 to them, which has not yet been accepted. There is no probability of this offer being increased; in point of fact, it should not be. And the sooner the Cherokees accept it, the better it will be for all parties concerned.

"ANDERSONVILLE" GOING RAPIDLY.

Several weeks ago, we announced that we had printed 1,300 copies of "Andersonville," and that when they were exhausted the book will be out of print, and therefore unobtainable. Since that time, we have sold about 700 copies. Therefore, but 600 copies remain; and it may be taken as a fact that those who do not order within 30 days will be too late. All will be gone.

The book is one which every one interested in the war of the rebellion should have. It is the recital of the experience of JOHN MCELROY in Andersonville and other rebel prisons, and gives the best history of life in the prison-pens of the South which has ever been published. It is a large volume—so large that the postage on it is 25 cents—and was originally sold by subscription at $3 per copy. We will now send a copy by mail, postpaid, for $1.25. Remember this is the last chance; when the 1,300 copies now on hand are sold, the book will be out of print. Address "THE BLADE, Toledo, Ohio."

SOME of the Democratic papers have been making quite a point of the views as to the futility of the Pan-American conference, given by an alleged Chilian delegate. Now it turns out that this person is not a delegate at all, but simply a mugwump resident of New York city. We shall watch with interest to see how many of our Democratic exchanges will make the proper correction.

A CALL has been issued by the temporary organization of the "Thirteenth Ohio Congressional District Service Pension association" for all committees appointed by veteran associations, and all individuals interested in service pensions in that district, to meet in convention in Columbus, on May 17. Such an organization should be perfected in every Congressional district in the United States.

IF the resolution, reported favorably to the House by the Ways and Means committee, shall be adopted by Congress, authorizing the secretary of the Treasury to classify "worsted" cloth as woolen cloth, it promises a satisfactory solution of a difficulty which has greatly embarrassed American manufacturers. The Democrats on the committee did not dissent.

THE Americans in London will give a dinner to STANLEY, on May 30, Consul-General NEW presiding, as Minister LINCOLN is in mourning for his son. The largest banqueting hall in London will be secured, and the Americans will show our British cousins how we do honor to a man who claims our nationality, even though by adoption and not by birth.

JAPAN holds her first national election on July 1 next; and the occasion is most interesting, as it marks the beginnings of popular government in the Mikado's empire. Members of the new parliament will be elected, and the experiment then be made of engrafting Western governmental methods upon an Oriental civilization.

THE foreign immigration to this country promises to be greater this year than at any time since 1882, and the wonder is where work will be found for all of them.

THE tariff discussion will probably begin in the House of Representatives the first week in May. It ought not to be very long, and the bill should be passed by June 1.

IT is probable that the prohibitory amendment to the state constitution of New York will be voted on at a special election in April, 1891.

TEN DOLLARS FOR CLUBS!

THE BLADE is now offering the highest cash payments for clubs of any of the newspapers of the country. Those who wish to raise clubs and receive a cash premium will please write to us for confidential terms to agents.

Those who desire to earn one or more of the other premiums on our list, should read the following offers:

For a club of 10 subscribers, at $1 each, we will give a Trenton Watch, worth $5—a *guaranteed watch*.

For a club of 15 subscribers, at $1 each, a china tea set.

For a club of 20 subscribers, at $1 each, a china chamber set, or a Blade cook stove.

The tea set, chamber set and cook stove are the same that have already been described in our columns.

As an aid in raising clubs, write to us for all the specimen copies you may need. We will gladly furnish them free.

THE NEW SILVER BILL.

The House and Senate Republican caucuses have at last agreed upon a silver bill. It is a compromise, and it is safe to say it will not please extremists on either side. The following are its features: It repeals that clause of the Bland bill which requires the purchase of not less than two million nor more than four million dollars' worth of silver bullion monthly, to be coined into standard dollars; it requires the purchase of 4,500,000 ounces of pure silver per month, at market price, unless this price should rise above $1 for 371¼ grains of silver—the amount in the standard dollar; this bullion is to be paid for in treasury notes, to be issued for the purpose, in such form and of such denominations, not less than $1 nor more than $1,000, that the secretary of the Treasury shall decide upon; these notes are redeemable on demand in "lawful money of the United States," are receivable for customs, taxes, and all public dues, but are not made full legal tender; and they can be redeemed in silver bullion, at the market price on that day, at the option of the holder.

Enough of the silver bullion received under the act shall be coined, as shall be necessary to provide for the redemption of the notes. This provision, probably, is to be interpreted to mean that practically the whole amount will be coined—in which case, the bill nearly doubles the amount of silver now required to be coined monthly.

The bill is to be taken as evidence that the men advocating free silver coinage deem such a measure impossible of enactment with the present Congress; else they would not have yielded the point in the caucus. While the bill is not acceptable to the silver men on this ground, it is equally unacceptable to Secretary WINDOM, whose objection to the silver purchase clause was stated several days ago, as follows:

"The Senate committee insists that the government shall be compelled to purchase $54,000,000 worth of silver in each month, making $54,000,000 a year, which, with the amount needed for the arts and for our trade with China, will exceed our own production by about $10,000,000 per annum. How is this excess to be obtained? Only by purchase from abroad. In the event of an unfavorable balance of trade, when our gold will be most needed at home, we shall be compelled to export $10,000,000 of gold which we will then sorely need to pay for $10,000,000 of silver which we will not need at all. This compulsory purchase of so great an amount will make the treasury the largest operator in the most gigantic 'corner' ever organized."

The bill will do two things: First, meet the demand for an increase of circulation; second, enhance the value of silver by providing for its use as the basis for that increase of circulation. Its operation would practically absorb all the silver produced in this country, thus withdrawing from the market nearly half the entire silver product of the world. There will be an attempt, when the bill reaches the Senate, to amend it so as to make the certificates full legal tender; but in view of the unanimous action of the caucus which agreed upon the bill, the chances of the adoption of such an amendment are small. It is probable that the bill has the endorsement of President HARRISON, who is known to be anxious for an increase of silver circulation.

"DR. CARLIN'S RECIPES" VERY CHEAP, TO CLOSE OUT.

Although several very large editions of "Old Dr. Carlin's Recipes" have been printed, the supply is nearly exhausted We have a remainder of only a few dozen on hand, the covers of which are slightly discolored, but the inside of the books is as good as ever.

We will send these by mail, postpaid, at *one dollar* each. The regular price is $2. It is a book of 600 pages, filled with valuable and proved recipes. The supply is very small, and they will be all gone within a few weeks. Order quickly! You will get the book at half price, and aside from slight discolorations of the cover, they are equal to new.

THE experiment of beet-sugar making is to be tried on an extensive scale in Nebraska. Grand Island is to have a factory with capacity of 350 tons of beets daily, and it will require 10,000 acres of land to furnish it with enough beets for a year's run. As the profit on beet-raising is from $25 to $40 an acre, the Nebraska farmers will find it far more profitable than raising grain at the present low prices the world over.

GREAT BRITAIN is well fixed in a naval way for war with any other European power. She can, at a month's notice, put to sea a fleet of 44 modern battle-ships and "belted" cruisers. France would have to meet her with only 23, Russia with 15, Germany with 12 and Italy with only 10; so that she could overmatch not only any single nation in naval warfare, but any two of them combined.

COMMISSIONER OF PENSIONS RAUM estimates that there are now 143,920 veterans who will be entitled to receive a pension of $8 a month under the Morrill pension bill, and that during 1892 this number will be increased by 14,819. This bill provides a pension for every man who has reached the age 62 years, and who served ninety days in the army.

ONE of the strongest arguments in favor of the MCKINLEY tariff bill is that the manufacturers of all foreign countries are opposed to it. The free traders of this country and the mugwumps are also opposed to it. Well it wasn't framed for foreign, but in behalf of American manufacturers, and it is not a free trade but a protection measure.

A FLOWER that is alternately red, white and blue, according to the time of day, has been found on the Isthmus of Tehuantepec. If it grew in the United State, the question of a national flower would be solved at once. The bloom that displays the national colors would have unanimous acceptance.

M. EIFFEL desires to come over to Chicago and undertake the construction of a tower 1,500 feet high—overtopping the Paris tower by 500 feet. Chicago should avail herself of his offer. Such a tower would, of itself, go far toward making the World's Fair a success.

IF, as stated, Mr. CLEVELAND'S free trade friend, WM. L. SCOTT, has been converted to free coal, the other story that he had disposed of his mining interests to a syndicate is also likely to be true.

THE PAN-AMERICAN CONFERENCE.

The Pan-American conference is over. It is a great pity that it decided to hold its sessions in secret, for daily reports of the discussions would have attracted a much greater degree of interest to its deliberations, and proved of educational value to the American people. We Yankees are rather prone to consider the Latin nationality, from which strain the people of our sister republics of the two Americas to the south of us are descended, as inferior to that Northern civilization from which our language and institutions are inherited, and a great majority of our heterogeneous population is descended. Many of the members of the conference are men of accurate knowledge and high natural endowments, of broad views as regards great interests, and of a high degree of statesmanship; and it is to be deplored that our people at large were not made acquainted with these men through the daily publication of the discussions in which they participated.

Every one understands, of course, that this conference was merely an advisory body. It was made up of representatives from the United States, Mexico, and the republics of Central and South America, to discuss international topics of interest to all, and discuss measures that would lead to closer relations, commercial and other, between us and our sister republics of this continent. Of course, the reports which it has adopted on various topics will have to be submitted to the legislative bodies of the nations concerned, to be acted upon as the latter shall see fit.

One of the most important of these reports is that in regard to international arbitration of disputes. It recommends that a general treaty shall be negotiated among all the independent nations of this continent, looking to the peaceful settlement of all dissensions that may arise, without having recourse to war. This report includes a list of the questions on which it recommends that arbitration shall thus be made compulsory, which includes territorial boundaries, the construction and enforcement of treaties, matters of navigation, diplomatic etiquette, and similar contentions. The object evidently was to include all probable causes of war, to the end that an appeal to arms between two nations of this continent shall be practically an impossibility. The wisdom of a general treaty of this nature needs no argument.

Another very important report is that is that of the conference's committee on banking. The following array of facts is first set forth:

"The total exchange of commodities between the United States and countries to the south during the year ending June 30, 1888, aggregated $282,902,408, of which the imports into the United States amounted to $181,058,966 of merchandise and $21,236,791 of specie and bullion, and exports from the United States $71,338,181 of merchandise and $8,668,470 of specie and bullion. Of the $181,000,000 of merchandise brought into the markets of the United States the greater part was paid for by remittances to London or the continent, to cover drafts drawn in the exporting markets against European letters of credit."

The commission on these letters of credit is ¾ of 1 per cent, and the banks of Europe make a large aggregate profit annually out of it; while we on this side of the Atlantic lose the commission, interest and difference of exchange, which could all be saved, and commerce be also developed, if an international system of banking were adopted, thus affording a market for drafts drawn against these letters of credit.

The committee, in view of these facts,

"Recommends to the governments here represented the granting of concessions for international banking, and especially recommends the establishment of an international American bank, to be organized under a United States national charter, with branches or agencies in the several represented countries; and as incident thereto, suggests to the delegates of the United States the desirability of submitting this report to to the President of the United States, with a view that, should he deem it proper, he may recommend to the Congress of the United States the enactment of a charter for an international American bank, for the benefit and enlargement of the commerce of the Americas."

This, again, is a recommendation so practical, so certain of good results to United States commerce with the other American republics, as to need no argument in its favor. Another important report is that of the committee on port dues—that is, the amounts paid by vessels entering port. The committee considers it impracticable to abolish these charges completely, but recommends:

"First—That all port dues be merged into a single one, to be known as tonnage dues.

"Second—That this one charge shall be assessed upon the total carrying capacity of the vessel.

"Third—That each government fix for itself the amount to be charged as tonnage dues, but with due regard to the general policy of the conference upon the subject, which is to facilitate and favor navigation.

"Fourth—That there be excepted from the provisions of article I the dues charged or to be charged under unexpired contracts with private parties.

"Fifth—That the following shall be exempt from tonnage dues: Transports and vessels of war, vessels of less than twenty-five tons, vessels which shall have been compelled to put into port by reason of damages suffered at sea, yachts and other pleasure boats."

Another important report was that upon extradition, and the committee recommends that the Spanish-American republics shall adopt the report of the Congress of South American countries, at Montevideo, in 1888, on the subject, framing extradition treaties among themselves in conformity therewith, and each concluding a special treaty on the subject with the United States, in general harmony with our extradition treaties with European nations.

Of the other matters considered by the congress, the project for a north and south continental railway has attracted a great deal of interest, and we shall not be surprised to see, within the next few years, the preliminary steps of this great work begun. The contemplated uniformity of customs regulations among the countries represented will probably develop into some general scheme of reciprocity of trade among the nations of the Western continent, which will greatly widen the markets for our own goods. The propositions for subsidized steamship lines on both oceans and in the Gulf of Mexico have been put on a definite and equitable basis, and favorable action by our government, which may reasonably be looked for, will impart a wonderful stimulus to our commerce. The question of an international coinage has been considered, but it is remitted for definite treatment to a new conference, to be convened within a year for that special purpose.

The real importance of this congress has not been fully realized by our people. It is safe to to say that its great value will be more strongly felt hereafter, when its recommendations are discussed, and, we hope, put into effect. There will, in any case, grow out of it a closer relationship between us and the other nationalities of this continent, and time will give to Secretary BLAINE his full meed of praise for the far-seeing statesmanship which evolved the idea of this congress, and successfully accomplished it.

THE carpet manufacturers are opposing the clause imposing a heavier duty on imported third-class wools. The milk in this particular cocoa-nut is that a large part of the wool now imported in this class—carpet wool—is separated and used as clothing wool, thus evading the higher duty on the latter. The wool-growers are satisfied with the new duty proposed, however.

THE MONTANA SENATORS.

The two Republican Senators from Montana have been seated, and the Democratic scheme to steal the new commonwealth has failed of its purpose. It appears that this project was in the hands of a certain HAUSER, a millionaire mine-owner and banker, who was aided by J. B. HAGGIN, of San Francisco, and who also had the backing of the Northern Pacific railway in the nefarious work. It is related that, some time after the election, as HAUSER was in St. Paul on his way East, he was asked by a friend how it happened that the loud boasts that Montana was Democratic had come to naught. Mr. HAUSER'S cheerful reply was: "Well, our folks stole the thing all right enough, but the other fellows knocked us down and took it away from us."

The method of the attempted theft was the familiar Democratic dodge of illegal voting and manipulated returns. The city of Butte is in Silver Bow county; and it was here that these frauds were most glaring, and where they were clearly proved upon investigation. That county had ten members to elect to the state house of representatives; and it so happened that the political complexion of the state legislature, and consequently the politics of the United States Senators to be elected, depended upon whether the frauds committed in Silver Bow county by the Democrats should be allowed to succeed. A branch line of the Northern Pacific railway was building through Silver Bow county at the time of the election, and one of the voting precincts—the notorious No. 34—was at a construction camp along that line. At this precinct the worst frauds were perpetrated; and it so happened that the vote of this precinct determined the vote of the county, as the latter did the political majority in the legislature. The nature of the frauds perpetrated at Precinct 34 are thus summarized:

"When the returns came in from this precinct it was found that they were signed by but two out of five inspectors; that they were not written by the clerk as required by law, but by one of the signing inspectors; that they were a list of names and, amazing to relate, of names in alphabetical order, signifying that the voters at this camp had presented themselves at the ballot-box in that extraordinary manner; that every one had voted for every candidate on their tickets without a scratch or an erasure or addition, a result unknown at any other poll in the state, and that they numbered 179 Democrats to 2 Republicans.

"An investigation was at once instituted, and the discovery was made that the return was nothing more nor less than a copy of the camp pay-roll. Half a dozen of the men who had voted there made affidavit that they had voted the Republican ticket. It was proved, too, that, after the election, the inspectors, in utter violation of the law, had closed the booth, shutting out all spectators and the two clerks also, and had made up their entire alphabetical return in entire seclusion and secrecy."

The county board of canvassers rejected this unblushing fraud at once, and instead of ten Democratic representatives, as would have been the result had the scheme succeeded, five Republicans and five Democrats were honestly elected. This gave a Republican majority on joint ballot in the Montana legislature, and the two Republican United States senators who have just been seated. The only case the two Democrats had who assumed to be senators-elect, was based on the shadowy claim of the other five Democrats from Silver Bow county to seats in the legislature. It is well that the cold facts in this case shall be known, as it is systematically misrepresented by Democratic papers all over the country.

SERVICE PENSIONS MUST COME.

THE New York *Press*, ROBERT P. PORTER'S paper, which is Republican to the core, and which keeps on the skirmish-line of party progress, has the following strong editorial utterance by way of advice to Congress, under the caption, "Take Care of the Veterans:"

"One of the things which Congress must not forget or ignore at the present session is the Republican pledge to the soldiers of the late war. Democratic Congresses have spat upon the veterans, while we have promised them justice—and they only ask justice when they ask for pensions in their old age. So far Congress has done well by the old soldiers, through special bills and the dependent pension bill. But service pensions is the ultimate requirement which alone can satisfy the soldiers and redeem Republican promises.

"Neither the tariff bill nor financial legislation, important as they are, should be permitted to obscure or delay proper pension legislation. The Democratic party will make a great effort to secure control of the next House. If they succeed no pension legislation can be expected. The Republican majority of the present Congress must therefore take care of the old soldier while the power rests exclusively with Republicans."

THE Philadelphia court of Quarter sessions has had before it 2,921 applications for retail liquor licenses, and has granted 1,173 for the year. The Chicago *Tribune* calls attention to these figures in connection with the fact that before the present Pennsylvania high license law was passed three years ago, there were over 6,000 licensed saloons in Philadelphia. The Scott law reduced this number the first year to 1,343; the second year the number dropped to 1,204, and now a third drop to 1,173 has been made. That is, the net result of three years' operation of the law is to wipe some 4,800 saloons out of existence in that city. That is commendable work, but it is a mere lopping off of the branches of the upas tree, instead of putting the ax to its roots. While there is no doubt a diminished consumption of liquor, this diminution is not at all in proportion to the decrease in the number of saloons. It will probably be found that the number of drinkers at each saloon is largely increased. While high license does good in its way, and is far preferable to free whisky or low license, the central evil is untouched—the constant debasement of humanity, the steady manufacture of drunkards. Nothing but prohibition can cure this evil.

PUBLIC opinion in Ohio on the liquor question is steadily growing in opposition to the saloon. The Scott law was passed by a Republican legislature, and caused such a ferment on the liquor question that the Republicans were defeated and the infamous "coal oil" legislature elected. When the Republicans again came into power, the Dow law was passed, but the effort to defeat them again on this issue was unsuccessful. Last year the Owen law, providing for the closing of saloons on Sundays, was used as a Democratic argument, and its repeal or modification so as to allow cities to open the saloons if they saw fit, was promised as the reward of Democratic success. It was one of the factors of the Republican defeat in the cities last fall. Now the Democrats in the legislature can not muster the strength to change the law. There are too many Democratic members who dare not vote for it, knowing the feeling in its favor among their constituents. The day is rapidly coming when the "saloon vote" will defeat any party with which it affiliates in Ohio.

THE New York *Evening Post*, mugwump and Democratic free trade, remarks in a melancholy tone, that "it will require almost a revolution in public sentiment to shake Republican control of the Senate before 1895, so strongly is that party now intrenched." Right you are; and American industries are safe from pro-British attacks for that time, at least.

CASTLE GARDEN, as a landing place for immigrants, has passed into history. The first immigrant was landed there August 3, 1855, the last on April 18, 1890

A NEW FEATURE!

Something Every Blade Reader Will Be Glad to Hear.

Within the last five years, a new use has been made of novels—or perhaps we should say stories, for all stories are not novels. It is, to make them vehicles for the discussion of great questions in sociology, or religion, or politics. "Robert Elsmere" was one of these, and its phenomenal run was due far less to the story than to the bringing forward of the results of German Biblical criticism in a form in which they could be understood and appreciated by the general reader; Bellamy's "Looking Backward" is another case in point, in which social problems were discussed in the guise of a story.

There is no doubt that the "story with a purpose" is extremely popular with the masses, because it interests as well as amuses. Hence THE BLADE, desirous of treating the the overshadowing issue of our American politics of to-day—the tariff—in a new and effective manner, has just concluded negotiations for the writing of a story for its columns in which

THE TARIFF QUESTION

shall be discussed in its bearings upon the lives and fortunes of the people. The author is one of the leading political writers of the day, who has for years devoted much attention to this great economic question, and who is probably as well posted on tariff matters as any other man in the United States, and is withal a writer of clever stories.

We shall begin its publication some time during the first half of the summer, and it will extend over most of the Congressional campaign. The title and exact date of publication have not yet been determined upon, but will be announced in due season.

We can say this much, however: That every farmer, every old soldier, every workingman, should read it, for he will find discussed therein all the live issues that will be prominent in the campaign this fall, and in the Presidential election of 1892.

Also every one who likes to read a good story—and who does not?—will find it worth his or her perusal for the sake of the story, for it will be filled with incident, and its plot is a fresh and unhackneyed one.

WHAT IT WILL BE.

The scene is placed in Ohio, and while the story runs back nearly to the close of the war, the main action takes place in the future. The author has assumed that the present Congress fails to do justice to the surviving soldiers of the late war, or to answer the demands of the Western farmers for measures calculated to give them relief, and that consequently the next Congress (the Fifty-second) has a Democratic House. He then traces this supposed revulsion in public feeling through to the campaign of 1892, and the election of a Democratic President.

The reaction is so great that the Senate dare not oppose the will of the people, and the result is the overthrow of protection, the adoption of free trade, and other radical changes in national policy. The story then goes on to show the effect upon the people of the United States, gives a vivid picture of the new order of things, and the totally unexpected results which flow from it.

There is nothing in the story that is not both possible and probable; and some startling pictures are drawn which, while they seem strange, are by no means beyond realization, and that within the next four years.

The story is not yet all written, but its plan and scope have been fully laid before us, and we believe that our readers will be deeply interested. It will give them new material for thought, for discussion; it will broaden their horizon of political thought; and it will be especially useful to the boys and young men, just coming on the stage of political action.

Campaign Subscribers.

We shall make a special effort for campaign subscribers this summer, in order to give this story the widest circulation possible. We ask our friends to mail us lists of names of persons to whom we may send sample copies of THE BLADE with the full announcement of the story, which will be given in a few weeks, and probably also sample copies containing the first installment. Send us names, and send them quickly!

SECRETARY RUSK'S views on the causes of agricultural depression will be read with interest. The secretary is himself a practical farmer, and in his position at the head of the Agricultural department he has had an opportunity to learn the views of those who are the sufferers from this depression. He looks to protection for a remedy, and takes the position that by a wise application of our admirable protective system all the benefits of our home market may be secured to the farmer for everything he may produce. He thinks our system of taxation demands improvement so as to place the burden of maintaining the government, whether state, municipal or national, upon the luxuries and comforts which the wealthy enjoy, and to reduce it to a minimum in its application to the hardly earned property of the poor man.

IOWA has a new law for the restraint of habitual drunkards. Under it a guardian may be appointed for him, who can have him restrained, even by confinement to a hospital or asylum, so as to keep him from the use of liquor. The patient always has the right to confer with his attorney, and to appeal to the court for a change in the order relating to his confinement. It is not the purpose of the law to punish so much as to reform. This law reminds one of locking the stable-door after the horse is stolen. The proper thing is to prevent men from becoming drunkards. When a man reaches the stage at which he requires a guardian, he is, as a rule, not worth saving.

M. R DEPEW amends GREELEY'S celebrated dictum by advising young men to go South instead of West. If the same tolerance in politics were shown in the South as in the West, that section would receive a large share of the emigration from the East which now seeks the West and Northwest.

NAPOLEON the Great spoke truly when he said, "Though a nation be made of adamant, free trade will grind it to powder."

CURRENT EVENTS.

Representative McKinley expects to spend the summer in Europe.

It is said that there are eighteen women physicians in active practice in

THE PENSION QUESTION.

EIGHTH PAPER.

Congress Apparently Determined to Pass the Morrill Pension Bill.

The Republican House caucus has decided to support the Morrill pension bill. As we understand it, this is the amended "dependent" pension bill—that is, it is practically the dependent bill as it was passed by the Senate, amended by adding thereto Mr. MORRILL'S provision that all honorably discharged soldiers and sailors who are now 62 years old or over, are to receive $8 per month pension, and those not yet that old are to be put on the rolls as soon as they reach the age of 62 years.

It goes without saying, that this measure is not and will not be satisfactory to the veterans. It is simply an attempt to put off doing justice to the soldiers until a large portion of them are dead, so that the expenditures for pensions will not be so enormous. It is alleged that the measure has high official sanction; but if any Republican leader supposes for an instant that it will be satisfactory to the soldiers and their friends—who form the majority of the party in the west—he is terribly mistaken.

However, we do not anticipate that the bill will go through without a strenuous effort on the part of the friends of service pensions to attempt its amendment when it comes up in the House. They will not allow the measure to pass without an energetic effort to make it wider in its application. If no other way is open, they will concentrate their efforts, we believe, on the lowering of the age-limit—say to 50 years. This would extend the benefits of the bill to thousands who would have to wait from one to twelve years before being placed on the pension rolls.

In the report made to the House by Chairman MORRILL, of the committee on Invalid Pensions, on March 31 last, the following estimates were given of the number of survivors of the rebellion who would be benefited by the Morrill bill, and the number who would be added to the list every succeeding year:

	Number.
Now 62 years of age or over	80,493
No. who will reach 62 in 1892	14,819
" " " 1893	16,255
" " " 1894	17,946
" " " 1895	19,938
" " " 1896	22,251
" " " 1897	24,949
" " " 1898	28,098
" " " 1899	31,746
" " " 1900	35,946
" " " 1901	40,760
" " " 1902	46,236
" " " 1903	52,397
" " " 1904	59,254
" " " 1905	69,252
" " " 1906	63,893
" " " 1907	29,232
" " " 1908	3,754
" " " 1909	535

It will thus be very easy for any one to figure out how many more persons would be benefited by lowering the age-limit from 62 years to 50, or any other figure. The indications now are, in our judgment, that there will be a desperate effort made to pass the Morrill bill, but that there will be a considerable reduction in the age-limit. This by no means, however, should be taken to signify that there should be any cessation of effort on the part of the friends of service pension. Pressure should be brought to bear on Congress up to the latest available moment.

We have been sent two letters, which we give below, which will bear careful perusal. The first is forwarded us by Comrade J. W. BRICKER, M. D., of Smithville, O., who is a friend of Senator PLUMB, of Kansas, and wrote him a personal letter urging the passage of a service pension bill. Dr. BRICKER sends it to us, and we give it to our readers, omitting only the portions referring to personal matters:

"UNITED STATES SENATE, }
"WASHINGTON, D. C., April 16, 1890. }

"DEAR SIR AND COMRADE:—I have yours of the 15th. You write upon the assumption that I am opposed to a service pension, and yet nothing that I have ever said could be tortured into the statement of such a position. When I came here last December I went to work carefully to find out what the chances would be of the passage of a service pension bill, and to see generally what the feeling was among members of Congress on the pension question. I became satisfied that a service pension bill could not be passed at the present session of Congress. It would require the levy of one hundred millions of dollars of new taxes, which this Congress will not do. To ask that it ought to do it is entirely apart from the practical view of the situation. The question is, what can be done? I thought I saw that a very liberal disability bill could be passed, one that would certainly result in putting every disabled comrade upon the pension roll without requiring him to prove that his disability was incurred in the line of duty, as well as give better ratings to those already on the roll. According to the best information I could get such a bill would put four or five hundred thousand of the comrades upon the pension list within the next eighteen months. The obligation of the government is first to those who are disabled, it seems to me; and I thought it wise to labor to get the best possible disability bill, as the best thing that was within reach. This I have done. I was disappointed in the bill which passed the Senate, and tried very hard to have it amended in such a way that the dependent feature should be stricken out. I offered the amendment which was proposed by the Grand Army of the Republic, except that I provided in it that the lowest pension hereafter granted should be $6 per month, and that all who are now getting less than that amount should be put up to $6. This was voted down, those chiefly who voted against it seeming to think that it was not any better than the original bill, and there being a strong feeling to pass substantially the bill which Mr. Cleveland vetoed. It was also stated that the Grand Army committee favored the bill as reported and passed, provided anything short of a service pension bill was to be adopted.

"I have always been in favor of the repeal of the limitation upon arrears. I moved an amendment to the disability bill to remove this limitation, and it only got nine votes—two Democrats and seven Republicans. I then moved an amendment giving a service pension to every Union soldier who had arrived at the age of 62 years, adopting the language applied to the Mexican veterans. That was voted down, receiving only nineteen votes, although possibly it would have passed if it had been in the shape of a separate proposition. I did not move this latter because I thought it was the full measure of what ought to be done, but I moved it for the purpose of testing the temper of the Senate on the question of a service pension. My recollection is that all the affirmative votes for it, except two, were Republicans. I could, as easily as anybody, introduce a service pension bill, and let it go to the committee, doing nothing to secure its passage, and talking loud about my position; but I have always tried to do the practical thing and have been willing to accomplish something, even if not all that I desired, and using that as a basis for accomplishing other things. It seems to me that I have done something at least to benefit the comrades, and I am certain that there is no person in either house of Congress who will go farther than I in the accomplishment of everything that is within reach in their behalf.

"I note what you say about political matters, but these I have refrained from discussing in connection with matters affecting the comrades. Whatever they may do about their political affiliations will be entirely satisfactory to me. Nor do I feel called on to defend this Congress or any member of it, who may be opposed to the passage of a service pension bill. It is only fair to say, however, that the platform of no party in the campaign in which these members were chosen declared for a service pension. The Republicans of Ohio in their campaign of last year made such declaration and lost the state. Whether this declaration weakened them I have no means of knowing, but at all events it did not pull them through. The average Congressman looks out for the sentiment of his district. Whenever he is satisfied that his district wants a service pension he will vote for it; otherwise not, and I have been very greatly surprised to find that the most active workon behalf of pensions was being done in Kansas, where it is not needed, and omitted in Ohio and Indiana, where, according to present indications, it is badly needed.

"Truly yours, P. B. PLUMB."

The second letter is from Hon. J. D. TAYLOR, Representative from the 17th Ohio district:

"HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
"WASHINGTON, D. C., April 12, 1890. }

MY DEAR SIR:—Your communication calling my attention to the article in the TOLEDO BLADE in favor of a service pension, has been received, and I have also received the paper and have read the article referred to carefully. I take great pleasure in saying that I endorse every word of it, and shall do all I can to aid in the passage of the service pension bill during this session, and at as early day as possible. I took an active interest in getting the rules of the House so formulated that the invalid Pension committee could report this bill, or any other general pension legislation, at any time. This makes a report of this committee a privileged question, and will enable us to consider such legislation in the House at any time when the committee asks for it. I have been in favor of a service pension for a long time, and if you will turn to the Congressional Record you will find that I made a speech in favor of a service pension on April 11, 1884; and I have been advocating this kind of legislation ever since. At that time there were very few members of the House who were in favor of a law of this kind; now there are a great many. Assuring you that I will leave nothing undone that I can possibly do in this matter, I am,

Yours very truly,
J. D. TAYLOR."

WHAT THE BOYS SAY

ABOUT THE PENSION QUESTION.

Another Batch of Letters to the Blade on This All-Important Matter.

A NUMBER of extracts from soldiers' letters upon the pension question are given below, in continuation of those which have been published for a number of weeks past. They all breathe the same spirit, and only add cumulative evidence to the universality of the demand for a service pension instead of any partial and insufficient measure, such as the dependent bill.

The Case Clearly Put.

GRAINFIELD, KAN.—I am fully in accord, body and soul, with your sentiments as expressed in THE BLADE from week to week, concerning the duty of our government to the old soldiers who saved the Union,—of whom I am one,—and are now all more or less impaired, physically and mentally, as a result of the exposures, toils, hardships, privations and sufferings they underwent in actual service; thousands of them disabled in part or wholly from manual labor; many of them helpless and hopeless cripples and invalids; some of them requiring to be nursed and cared for like children; others, pauperized and helpless in the decrepitude of feebleness and old age, have become inmates of alms houses. The Ingalls bill is the best supplement to the existing pension laws yet offered, but will not be sufficient. There ought to be a supplement pensioning every soldier who served the Union 90 days or more, and who is now disabled (no matter how, when or where he got his disability), from $5.00 to $30.00 per month. And further, there should be an age pension, giving every soldier a pension, after 50 years of age, $5.00 per month; after 60 years, $10.00 per month; after 70, $20.00 per month; after 80, $30.00 per month.

Patriotism saved the nation! The pay offered was as nothing—not a straw in the balance. The government was not then able to pay more than it did. But now it is able. With an overflowing treasury, and not knowing what to do with the surplus, let it pay a part of its indebtedness to the men, and their widows and orphans, to whom it owes its very existence, in the manner above outlined. The government expects every man to do his duty. That is right. Now, why does not the government do its duty? Who is the government? Is this a "republic"—"a democracy? "a government of the people, by the people and for the people?" Then, in God's name, nearly everybody—the whole people—are the government; the machinery of which is operated and run by the men, the public servants whom we employ to do our bidding, perform our work and care for our interest and welfare. Are these servants have they been, faithful to the trust committed to their care? No, no! they have not—far from it. What is the remedy? Discharge them. Put honest men in their places.—ULTIMUS.

A Strong Presentation.

LA PORTE CITY, IOWA.—Let the Republican party at the present session of Congress make good their intimate words to the soldiers in 1861 and '62, and let it not fail to do so. The soldiers have supported that party during all these years with a firmness and determination unshaken, and had ever representatives in Congress been faithful to us as we have been to them this pension business would have received a satisfactory settlement years ago. Nay more. Had our representatives aforesaid made good their promises when the enlistments took place would be little need and less room for any agitation of this matter at the present time. Therefore we say to Congress now: Now is the time. Delay not, for delays are dangerous. By the time you come before the people for election again, unless something has been done, the minds of a great many of us may have changed.

See to it, then, that we have no occasion to change our minds, but pursue that noble, manly course which will ever cement us together as friends. Repeal the limitation act, pass the per diem bill, equalize the bounties and pass a law that will allow the widow a pension of $12 per month, no matter of what the soldier died. This is nothing more than simple justice, and the government should and ought to do simple justice to its preservers. This would put the surplus in circulation, and in an incredibly short space of time this money would find its way back to the national treasury, only to be paid out again to worthy and deserving comrades to relieve their immediate wants, and in due time find its way back again into the government vaults, thus rotating until the last survivor is gone. Our comrades are not asking alms, far from it. They are asking this to supply their needs and to recompense them in a pecuniary way for the sacrifices made by them during the times that tried men's souls. We hear of no objections to pensions from loyal hearts, and we care not for objections from disloyal ones. Let justice be done, say we, and let it be done at once. Put not off till to-morrow what can be done to-day.—T. B. M., Co. H, 7th Iowa CAV.

An Andersonville Prisoner Speaks.

SPOKANE FALLS, WASH.—The interest paid to government bond holders from 1863 to 1883 (twenty years) was $3,184,000 of interest to $1 for pensions, and Commissioner Bentley halved every claim for a long time in order to save bankrupting the government by pensions; and this interest to bondholders was paid gold value, while at one time our soldier pay per month of $13 would have been worth at gold value but little over $5. I ask, who made these bonds good? Twelve per cent in interest was paid, and higher offered but refused in the beginning of the war.

Now, what resulted from the sacrifice we soldiers made? Bonds have been issued at 3 per cent, and taken as fast as put upon the market. Who has made this 9 per cent difference? I say the soldiers. And if justice is not done ere long we ought to rise as one man and make such a demand as we, the national defenders, have a right to, and which in all honor is due; and nothing short of service pension will do justice to all, is the sentiments of a ten-months' prisoner.—A. S. R., Co. A, 14th U. S. Infty.

An Illinois Man's View.

WAPELLA, ILL.—Our country was in great peril; it needed money and men. For money it went to the moneyolists, promising to pay both principal and interest in gold, and its notes or bonds were not taxable. For men it went to the people. The people answered the call promptly, rescued the nation and then came back—what were not left to rot on Southern battle fields or in prison graveyards, came back, some of them armless, some with wooden legs, some wrecked in health. They came back to a land filled with widows and orphans, and paying $130,000,000 interest on the public debt. For this service they received notes worth about 50 per cent of their face value. No gold for the man who could stand up and be shot at. If he was so fortunate as to own an old horse and cow, they were taxed their full value to pay state debts incurred by the war, and for local improvements. The bondholder or creditor of the government got his gold dollar regardless of its mercenary value, and paid no taxes on the principal.—C. R. M.

Don't Desert the Colors.

BONAPARTE, IOWA.—Many of my old comrades talk of leaving the Republican party if it does not keep its promises to us. I cannot refrain from urging them to stand by the old flag. God bless you all, old comrades, let us be true while life lasts. What do you expect to gain by giving the power into the hands of those who in the time of our country's peril were in sympathy with its enemies? Surely we cannot expect any favors from them. I have never even got my bounty, let alone my pension; yet if I never do, I will still stand by the old Republican party. God bless our country and its rulers, and long live THE BLADE.—C. H. E., 2d Ills., L. A., Battery A.

The Greenback Pay.

ISLAND CREEK, O.—We were promised so many dollars by the government per month, but when gold got up to 92.83, in 1864, we only got 30 and a fraction cents, a little over one-third of what we were promised. Is it not fair that we should have full pay for our service? The farmer, the merchant, the mechanic, and all others who stayed at home, may say, did we not take the greenback dollar for our goods, our products and our labor? Yes, but your prices increased as did the gold, while ours did not. Wheat and wool came up in price three times what they were before, so with the merchant's goods, so with the mechanic's wages and the manufacturer's products, but not so with us. We were the breastworks of defense and safety to those that stayed at home, and virtually threw ourselves into the jaws of death and suffered through the winter of want for the perpetuity of this country, and now is it not just that we should have our wages in full?—J. C. R., Co. G, 52d Ohio.

A Case Worth Studying.

RENFREW, PA.—I am in favor of a service pension. There are many reasons why we old soldiers should insist and have a service pension bill passed. There are only two veterans of 1861 in all my neighborhood, and they are not getting pensions, while there are some twenty soldiers whose service consist of from six months to 60 days, and every one of them are drawing a pension. When they enlisted they got from $300 to $1,500 local bounty, and got $16 per month, while we old veterans got $13 per month, but they had the advantage. They could show a good hospital record. They enlisted for what money was in it; but us old 1861 men enlisted to help put down the rebellion, and did not try to get a hospital record. Now I think this Congress should pass the service pension bill and revise the pension laws generally, and try to benefit the men who saved this Union.—J. K.

A Despondent View.

COLUMBUS, KY.—I am one of those who left the Democratic ranks and voted for Harrison, because I was convinced that the soldier of '61 could not expect justice from that party. The Republicans are now in power; what have they done or what are they going to do for us? Nothing. If left to the common people, we should have had justice done us long ago, but left to politicians and the lawyers in Congress we are fed on promises, nothing more. Perhaps in the dim distance, when the soldier is no longer a power in politics, he will receive a pension regardless of party, but for us soldiers to argue as to which pension bill should be passed is simply a waste of words. Nevertheless, I think I am right in speaking out in meeting, and all comrades of the G. A. R. should indorse what it says.—F. R., Co. E, 38th Ohio.

Good Advice.

MILTON, WIS.—Stick to the good counsel of THE BLADE, boys; it is the best agency under the broad canopy of heaven for us who wore the blue. There is no getting around that. It stood by us all through the war, and has faithfully stood by us and for us ever since, and now volunteers to advocate our cause in *dead earnest!* I am sorry to see some of the boys intimating a change over to the other party if we don't get our just dues right away. That would be jumping from the frying pan into the fire, sure! What encouragement has the Democratic party ever manifested for the veterans?—A. J. W., 32d Wis.

Good Advice.

TOLEDO, O.—This country can afford to stand by the men that kept it together. Look at the thousands and thousands of foreigners coming over to this country to enjoy its benefits that the broken-down soldiers kept together. I want to say to all soldiers, read THE BLADE, get all the old soldiers you can to take it, give it to your neighbors to read, and bring up your children to read it, for it is the best paper in the country for the old soldiers. Stick together, work together, and for Lord's sake never vote a Democratic ticket.—A. A.

A Kansas Veteran's View.

WILSEY, KAN.—As to pensions, the justice, the argument, the precedent, and the promises of Uncle Sam, are all on the side of justice to the Union veterans. Out here in Kansas men of all shades of political belief favor a service pension bill, and not after we become 50 years of age, but now. When the sound of war was heard in 1861, "now" was when men were needed and they went in greater numbers than the government could equip. Many, oh how very many, laid down their lives; and those of us who returned are either crippled for life or are broken down in middle life. Dish it up to Congress hot and strong, and may your efforts and those of many other standard papers be successful.—F. H. H.

A Call for Justice.

TORONTO, IND.—My text is, Justice to soldiers and especially those who stood in the front line of battle from beginning to end. But the same time came out of the service broken down. This class of men, as you well know, is the one that receives the least compensation from this so-called best government under the sun whose on. Why? Just because they have no hospital record. Let Congress get to work and remove or repeal the limitation on the arrearage of pensions and give us a service pension also. Until it is done a load of woe will come laws justice will never be done those who stood in the front rank.—D. P., Co. A, 31st Ind.

What 25 Veterans Say.

SALEM, KAN.—I have interviewed at least 25 ex-soldiers in the last three weeks. All say, "We want no more talk of pauper pensions; that smacks to humiliation to a man who had pride enough to leave all for the sake of country when we could have done much better financially to remain at home with home comforts." These voices say, "Give us a service pension, or something more satisfactory than that has been done; or else let us go down and rot where the place to those who cares for more than self."—H. W. M., Co. C, 13th Iowa.

A Widow's Case.

LANSING, MICH.—My soldier husband tried four years for a pension, but had to die without it. He left me a widow with four children, and not able to make them a living. I am in hopes of getting a service pension. I have been trying to get a pension three years, but have not heard from it for a year. My poor children have to work out to get clothes and can't go to school. It is a shame the way the poor soldier widows are treated by the government.—M. C.

A Kansas Post Speaks.

COOLIDGE, KAN.—W. S. Harney Post, numbering 38 old veterans, is unanimous in asking Congress to pass the service pension bill, and repeal the limitation of arrears act. In this they will not only continue the Republican party in power, but will also maintain the noctious honor. Of one hundred soldiers entitled to pension arrears, all are.—I. B. B., P. C.

Brief Opinions.

BOISE CITY, IDAHO.—I am in favor of every honorably discharged soldier receiving a pension.—W. M. N.

GRANGER, IOWA.—I am sorry our representatives do not remember the veterans who helped to save the Union.—Co. B. 10th Iowa.

PROTECTION, KAN.—I am in favor of a service pension; think the money and hospital fellows have been pretty well provided for.—J. A., Co. I, 6th W. Va. Cav.

GARRARD, PA.—Let us have a service pension of $8 per month for all honorably discharged soldiers and sailors, and an increase according to wounds received.—W. D. F., 83d Pa.

HUDSON, IND.—I am in favor of the pension that will do justice to the needy. I am opposed to a dependent pension, as we are not paupers or beggars. All we ask is what is justly ours.—J. C. W.

BEN FRANKLIN, TEX.—I am in favor of a service pension bill, and will be thankful when the time comes to do justice to the old soldiers. I think if our government is ever going to do anything for us now is the time.—W. W. H., 8th Mo. Cav.

TIFFIN, O.—The old soldiers are not being treated right by this delay in passing service pension bill, now pending. It is just what we want, as delays are not only dangerous to our interests, but to the Republican party.—C. L.

BRISTOL, IND.—I am where I can hear comment from most of the old soldiers, and I often hear this: "Now the Republicans have the power and the Pension bill if they don't do something now I won't vote with them next time."—X. X. X.

PIERCE CITY, MO.—If this Congress fails to pension the old soldiers in proportion to their services, somebody will hear a sound rise out of the ballot box that will be heard and heeded (mark well the words), and that at the next election.—J. J. S.

TOPEKA, KAN.—Am in favor of the service bill, first, last and all the time. I served three years in the army. I also vote the Republican ticket, and never expect to vote for any Democrat nor for any man that does, whether I get a pension or not.—W. L., 3d Mo. Cav.

GALION, IOWA.—We farmers think we should have relief, but I don't think we could expect the government to loan to the farmers at a small rate of interest. The better way to do is to adopt the G. A. R. per diem bill. If the old soldiers get the money, it will soon be dished out to all the inhabitants of the United States.—J. T. M., Co. A, 7th W. Va.

SUMMERFIELD, O.—I, for one, a soldier for three years, think that the government will never have done its duty to its defenders until it gives an honest pension to all the soldiers. The service pension bill is the most just plan, and will do the most good to the greatest number.—D. E., Co. F, 30th Ohio.

——:—I could send you the names of 500 G. A. R. men in Arkansas who are praying for Congress to pass the equalization bounty bill, giving to old soldiers of the late war $400 bounty. I am like a great many Republicans in Arkansas in thinking that Congress is doing nothing for the old and worn-out soldiers who saved the government.—M. M.

BLISS, MICH.—I am decidedly in favor of a service pension, and that to begin at once, to every honorably discharged Union soldier, and justice to the soldier also demands that our government, which pledged us our pay in gold or its equivalent, should redeem that promise and pay us the difference between the value of the greenback which we got and the gold promised.—F. R., Co. D, 75th N. Y.

BURLINGTON, IOWA.—I think that the pension question has a right above many others to have its share of honest thought and consideration. And I think the Fiftieth Congress should take hold and see what a Republican Congress can do. I am an S. of V., but will never vote for a man that does not remember the soldier.—J. H. G.

BENTON HARBOR, MICH.—A general service pension bill separate from invalid pensions; pay all pensions from date of discharge or the contract of disease while in line of duty, as such has to be proven back to that time, remove that arrearage act, that keeps a part from getting what belongs to them; pay us what you agreed to when we enlisted, and you will satisfy us.—H. M., Co. D, 102d V. S. C. T.

——:—I think the dependent and service pension bills should both be passed in order to do justice to all classes of soldiers. If the Republicans think they have a sure thing of having the power for a long time to come, there will be a sad awakening for some of them next fall. If the present Congress don't do something for the soldiers, the Republican party has got my last vote.—H. S., Co. I, 1st W. Va.

They Are Here.

See him rave and tear his hair,
Hark! the hoodlums' hi, hi, hi,
All knocked out by dire despair,
Micky muffed a fly, fly, fly.
—Kearney Enterprise.

PERSONS AND THINGS.

Ex-President Hayes and Miss Fannie Hayes have gone to Bermuda.

The princess of Wales is one of the finest amateur piano players in England.

Marion Crawford, the novelist, now at Sorrento, Italy, has been made the father of twins.

Bismarck was once offered $1 a word for all that he might contribute to an American magazine.

Mme. Patti, it is said, has an insatiable appetite for stewed prunes, which she eats for her complexion.

Herbert Gladstone announces his intention to pay the United States and Canada a visit this summer.

Mrs. Levi P. Morton is heading a movement to have a statue of Gen. Washington presented to France.

Rev. Dr. Wayland Hoyt thinks that if St. Paul were living now he would be editing a religious newspaper.

Vice President Morton has subscribed $1,000 toward clearing the debt of St. John's church in Washington.

Miss Jean Ingelow receives so many requests for her autograph that she is physically unable to respond to them all.

Rain-in-the-Face, the great Sioux warrior, has written to a friend at Bismarck asking for a position on the police force of that city.

Robert Barrett Browning intends to present to Baliol college, Oxford, England, most of the manuscripts of his father's poems.

The most remarkable contribution in the English periodicals on Bismarck's retirement is said to be a paper in the Contemporory Review, entitled "King and Minister; a Midnight Conversation." The coversation is imaginary, but very like what such an interview would be.

Some important developments in the application of electricity to mining may be looked for from he fact that Mr. Edison and his assistants have taken quarters for a year in Charlotte, N. C., to pursue experiments in the adjacent district, which is declared to be the richest mineral region in the world.

Professor William R. Brooks, of Geneva, N. Y., has received the Donahue medal from the Astronomical society of the Pacific for his discovery of a comet on March 19. This society, of which Professor Holden is president, has its headquarters at the Lick University, and this is the first medal it has awarded.

At a recent musical party given by Mrs. Mackay, in London, the hostess wore a beautiful cream-colored dress, bordered with fur and made with high-puffed sleeves; Mrs. Cornwallis-West wore a peculiar shade of green, with emeralds and diamonds, and Mrs. Alfred Jophson, a cream satin brocade, with a mousse verte Empire sash and pearl-embroidered shoulder-wings.

A TRIBUTE TO A SURGEON.

A Physician Who Saved the Lives of Stanley and His White Followers.

With the eloquent brevity of a soldier, Lieut. Stairs, at the meeting of the Irish Graduates' association, condensed into a few words a very high eulogium on Surgeon Parke, of the Stanley expedition, which we cannot forbear reproducing. He said, "he considered that Parke had saved the life of every white man in the expedition, that he had saved his (Lieut. Stairs') life, and that he had saved Stanley's life twice." The medical profession comes in for much banter and sometimes for deliberate disparagement from ungracious or foolish people; but when one of its members alone can be so credited as Surgeon Parke is credited in these words of Lieutenant Stairs, we can afford to let satire and ungraciousness do their worst. If what Lieutenant Stairs says be true—and no one who heard him could have any doubt about it—it follows that a great and historical achievement would have been turned into a grave and tragical disaster but for the skill and care of its medical officer.—[London Lancet.

Prohibition for Nebraska.

At the state convention of the Non-Partisan Prohibitory Amendment League of Nebraska, held at Lincoln, April 17, 1890, the following preamble and resolution was adopted:

"WHEREAS, The present contest in Nebraska is a life and death struggle between license and prohibition as methods of dealing with the liquor traffic, the result of which will be felt throughout the country.

"WHEREAS, The Non-Partisan Prohibitory Amendment League is organizing for victory in this campaign regardless of party or religious affiliations; and

"WHEREAS, The legitimate expenses of such a campaign require a large amount of money; therefore be it

"*Resolved*, That all churches, W. C. T. U., I. O. G. T., I. M. C. A., organizations, red, blue and yellow ribbon clubs, temperance societies and prohibition clubs throughout the United States be earnestly requested to set apart Sunday, May 18, 1890, as 'Nebraska Prohibitory Amendment Day,' and that the same be observed with appropriate services, and that collections be then taken and forwarded to J. M. Stewart, treasurer of the Nebraska Non-partisan Prohibitory Amendment League, Lincoln, Neb., to be used under the direction of the league in the pending campaign."

Mr. Stewart is deputy attorney general. All contributions will be promptly acknowledged and used *solely* for the purpose of securing the adoption of the pending prohibitory amendment to the constitution of Nebraska. All persons are invited to contribute to the fund.

C. A. ATKINSON, President.
C. A. ROBBINS, Secretary.

A Marital Paradox.

There is a paradox quite new,
With common sense imbued;
The man who's married to a shrew
Is anything but shrew'd!
—[Munsey's Weekly.

Skating on Stilts.

A new mode of utilizing the principle of stilts for locomotion, has been patented. The action of propelling is that of skating on ice, and any forward figure that can be done on ice can be accomplished with ease by these machines. Each wheel is independent of the other, and backward travel is prevented by mechanical action. The balance is the first movement to be learned. By pressing the thumbs on the brakes the wheels become fixed, by which means the learner can walk on them the same as on stilts.

A Rara Avis.

Mother—Well, John, how do you like married life?

Son—Very well indeed.

"Is your wife amiable?"

"Extremely so."

"And you try to be so yourself?"

"I am so."

"Does she cook as well as your mother?"

"Mother, I cannot tell a lie. She does."
—[Boston Courier.

She's Still Single.

"What is that figure on the dome?" inquired a female visitor of a capitol guide recently.

"Liberty, ma'am," he replied, with a tremulous 50-cents-an-hour politeness.

"Liberty?" she repeated, with questioning scorn. "And it's a woman."

"Yes'm," he responded humbly; but she ain't married ma'am. Least ways, her husband ain't never around."—[Washington Star.

Colored Society Note.

Sam Johnsing—Has yer lubly darter made her debout?

Mrs. Crow—Not yet, Mr. Johnsing.

"Dat's a great pity. Sich a lubly flower was not born ter blush unseen and waste her fragrance on de desert air."

"She can't blush any odder way except onseen, she am so dark complected; but her sister Mollie am seberal shades lighter. Yer can see her blush almost ebery day."—[Texas Siftings.

Needs Them.

Boardly (gnawing savagely)—They say that some chickens have no teeth, Mrs. Hasher.

Mrs. Hasher—Why, none of them have teeth!

Boardly—I was going to observe that this chicken needs a better set of teeth than I have got.—[Light.

Mistook His Meaning.

Shoe Dealer (to young widow, who is hauling over a pile of ladies' slippers)—"Are you looking for number two ma'am?"

Young Widow (blushing)—"Yes, sir. Are you an unmarried man?"—[Burlington Free Press.

An Unequaled Triumph. An agency business where talking is unnecessary. Here are portraits of Miss Anna Page, of Austin, Texas, and Mr. Jno. Bean, of Toledo, Ohio. The lady writes: "I do business at almost every house I visit. Every one wants your grand **Photograph** album, and were I deaf and dumb I could secure orders rapidly." The man writes: "Your magnificent album is the greatest of all bargains; the people generally are wonderstruck and order at sight. The orders taken last week pay me a profit of over $150." This is the chance you have been looking for. You can make from $5 to $25 and upwards every day of your life. Talk not necessary. You can make big money even though you don't say a word. Our new style album is the grandest success ever known, and the greatest bargain in the world. Double size—the largest made. Bound in richest, most elegant and artistic manner, in finest silk velvet plush. Bindings splendidly ornamented. Inside charmingly decorated with most beautiful flowers. It is a regular $10 album, but is sold direct to the people for only $2. How can we do it? It is the greatest hit of the times; we are manufacturing 20,000, and are satisfied with a profit of a few cents on each. Agents wanted! Any one can become a successful agent. Extra liberal terms to agents. We publish a full assortment of fine subscription books and periodicals. Agents wanted for all. Our agents are always successful. We do the largest business with agents in America, and can give larger value for the money and better terms than any other firm. Particulars and terms for all of above beautiful flowers. Write at once and we will send you a sample album, postpaid, for $2. Address
H. HALLETT & CO., BOX 740, PORTLAND, MAINE.

FETING THE WRONG MAN.

A Courier Mistaken for His Noble Master and Entertained by Philadelphia Bloods.

Alexander Kleczewiski, courier to Count Max Pappenheim of the German army, who is soon to marry Miss Wheeler, of Philadelphia, has been living in clover since he and his distinguished master arrived in that city. The count and his servant, says the Philadelphia *Times*, are stopping at the Hotel Bellevue. Kleczewiski is a man of commanding presence, fond of distinguished, not to say pompous, bearing. To those fortunate circumstances he owes the jolly good time that he is enjoying in the Quaker City. Kleczewiski, whose name clearly indicates his Russian birth, is ordinarily employed as a courier of the Continental hotel, Paris. He accompanied Count Pappenheim on his tour to this country, and upon reaching New York they made the preparations to visit Philadelphia, the courier preceding the count. Upon his arrival the servant instantly caught the eye of a number of fashionable young men, who sized him up for a German nobleman of high standing. The formality of an introduction was cast aside, and Mr. Kleczewiski was soon the recipient of an invitation to "take a bottle," which he did. Several bottles followed, and "witty words and sparkling wine" were in profusion, when the little informal fete was interrupted by the entrance of Count Pappenheim, which necessitated the presence of the supposed German nobleman, and the party broke up. The next morning Mr. Kleczewiski made his appearance attired in a rich robe and a dress suit, and joined his new found friends in a sumptuous breakfast, after which the party strolled down Chestnut street. At dinner the courier appeared in an entirely different dress, and carried a highly polished ebony cane, with a coronet and his initials engraved on it. After dining he sent a bell-boy for a victoria, and during the afternoon was driven about the fashionable parts of the city. While driving down Broad street the supposed nobleman was again seen by his banqueters of the night before, and upon his return he received an invitation to dine at a noted club. In the evening he was called for by a delegation of his admirers, who escorted him to a supper party in his honor. Kleczewiski, who speaks German, Spanish, Russian, Italian and English, entertained the young bloods with tales of foreign life, and for the past week he has been the center of their admiration. Thursday evening last, while his master was enjoying the wit and wisdom of the Clover club, Courier Kleczewiski strolled about the hotel, where his identity was again mistaken for that of his master. He was treated with the utmost respect and to lots of champagne. His entertainers only yesterday discovered that they had been feting the man and not the master.

ENGLISH READERS AND OURS.

Comparative Demand for Intellectual Books in Two Countries.

It is not easy, says the *North American Review*, to find a book that stands upon equal conditions in both countries. Looking over the list of recent books, there is one which seems to afford favorable circumstances for a just comparison. Charles Darwin is probably as well known and as popular with readers here as in England. I am unable to say what difference there is in the sale of his books in the two countries; but the recent biography of his son, Francis Darwin, gives us just the facts we are in search of. This book is published in England in three volumes at $9, and in this country in two volumes at $4.50; yet the sale in England at double the price has been twice as large. Moreover, as the greater number of copies there was sold in the libraries, they had probably ten times as many readers. I consider this as a conclusive test as to the comparative demand for intellectual books by readers in England and readers in the United States.

One of the most brilliant English successes in recent years is Green's "History of the English People." The English publishers announced about a year ago the sale of 120,000 copies. I know of nothing with us comparable with this. Higginson's "History of the United States" has had a very large sale, but the price is much lower. It is intended, moreover, for young readers, and there has been a large school consumption. I am not unmindful of the wonderful success of General Grant's "Memoirs"—a success unprecedented in literature. But look how many circumstances combined to make it so. A General, passionately loved, writing on his deathbed the history of campaigns that enlisted the profoundest patriotism of the people, insured for it at the beginning a vast circulation. Then we recall how it was carried by thousands of active agents to every house in the land. Never was a book waited for by a longer, admiring and multitude. A book produced under circumstances so extraordinary and sold by methods so special is in no wise a test of the intellectual tastes of the people.

We must compare the sale of Green's "History" not with that of Grant's "Memoirs," but rather with the sales of Bancroft or McMaster or Hildreth. We would accurately judge of the comparative demand for historical literature. When the first volume of McMaster's "History of the People of the United States" appeared it was believed to have been inspired by Green, and was hailed with enthusiasm. There were many indications of a brilliant literary and popular success, and yet the sale has not been more than a twentieth of that of its great English model. This is very significant, and is enough of itself to dispose of the notion that we buy more books than the English do.

LOVE'S FLARING FINGERS.

How Blushes May Be Called on by an Alarm Clock Arrangement.

The new toilet powder, which, according to the advertisement, "defies perspiration," will doubtless supply a want, but it is still doubtful to how great an extent "the latest thing in blushes" will meet with feminine approval, says the London *Truth*. This ingenious aid to modest beauty can be applied to the cheeks, it seems, some time before it is required to act, and "can be set"—as its inventor puts it—"like an alarm clock, to go off, or rather come on, at a certain previously fixed time."

Experience will, of course, have to teach our fair sisters, cousins and aunts how far this "alarum blush" may be relied on; but, in the meantime, it is not wonderful that there is widespread timidity among ladies as to its use.

For one thing, it is very difficult for even the most experienced belle to know some time beforehand the moment at which she will be anxious to summon a telltale blush to her aid. And I need scarcely dilate on the mischief that might be occasioned at its sudden appearance at a malapropos juncture, or when its realistic presence would be liable to be altogether misunderstood.

Speaker Reed' Repartee.

Some time ago Reed went down to a lunch given by Montgomery in the capitol where he had two very large salmon from Oregon. Some champagne was on the table, and Montgomery felt uncertain whether he ought to offer any to Mr. Reed. He said:

"Mr. Reed, will you have a glass of champagne?"

"Oh, yes."

"I was a little careful about asking you, as you came from Maine with its anti-Maine principles."

"Oh," said Reed, "that is where Maine differs from Kentucky. We leave our habits at home and they bring theirs away from home.

A day or two before there had been a case of shooting at the capitol between two Kentuckians.

One Imperfection.

He said he liked her face so sweet,
Her eyes with brown that almost moet,
He liked her forehead white and square,
He liked her long and waving hair,
He liked her cheeks with tints of rose,
But he heartily disliked her noes.
—[Washington Post.

SILK AND SATIN.

How They were Discovered and Given to the World.

Rich and beautiful as these fabrics are, and widely as they are now used, yet few people know that the discovery of silk is attributed to one of the wives of the emperor of China, Hoang-ti, who reigned about two thousand years before the Christian era, and since that time a special spot has been allotted in gardens of the Chinese royal palace to the cultivation of the mulberry tree and to the keeping of silk worms. Persian monks who came to Constantinople revealed to the Emperor Justinian the secret of the production of silk, and gave him some silk worms. From Greece the art passed into Italy at the end of the thirteenth century.

When the Popes left Rome to settle at Avignon, France, they introduced into that country the secret which had been kept by the Italians, and Louis XI. established at Tours a manufactory of silk fabrics. Francis I. founded the Lyons silk works, which to this day have kept the first rank. Henry II., of France, wore at the wedding of his sister the first pair of silk hose ever made. The word "satin," which, in the original, signifies cotton, is now applied to all silk stuffs in general, has, since the last century, been used to designate only tissues which present a lustered surface.

The discovery of this particular brilliant stuff was accidental. Octavio Mai, a silk weaver, finding business very dull, and not knowing what to invent to give a new impulse to the tr

The Household.

MISS EMILY S. BOUTON . . . . EDITOR.

HOME TALKS.

TOO MUCH TO READ.

The Result Is for Many People Literary Dissipation.

THE preacher saith "Of making many books there is no end, and much study is a weariness to the flesh."

I wonder what Solomon would say to-day were he here to express himself, about the immense number of books that are written, published and read. If exhausted with the effort to keep pace with the wisdom of the time as found in the writings of its thinkers, what would be his verdict, upon seeing the oceans of brain products that are to be found everywhere in civilized countries. And if he could be set down somewhere and surrounded by the Saturday and Sunday editions of the daily papers, of this country alone, the grey matter of his brain, incarnation of wisdom though he were, would be stirred to chaos. Then add to this pile the weeklies for a week, and the magazines for a month, and the conviction expressed in the closing chapter of Ecclesiastes would be intensified. Perhaps the wise man foresaw the present day, and his words were a forewarning. I simply advance that idea, not expecting it, however, to be taken in preference to the signification given to his words by those learned in these matters, namely that only in the sacred writings could a clue be found to what will give humanity its real happiness.

FLOOD OF READING MATTER.

To return to the first thought, that of the multiplication of books and the increase of all kinds of reading matter, good, bad and indifferent. Facing so much trash, if we could not turn to so much that is good and valuable, one would be tempted sometimes to wonder if the discovery of the art of printing was an unmitigated blessing. Of course it is only a passing question, since through it the sum of human knowledge has so widely increased. Yet I am not sure that I belong to those who say, let everybody read, if not good books then poor ones; for it seems to me that one book or paper that inflames the passions and sets them rioting, even though immediate results are not apparent, does infinitely more harm among the ignorant and untrained than no reading.

The question to-day for everybody to settle is, not how can we get enough to read, but how may we choose from the mass at our hand that which is best for our individual necessities. A half century ago and the first was the insistent one. A book in the homes of the poor was a rarity indeed; in those in moderate circumstances, it was more frequent, but they were cherished as we cherish now bits of rare china. The consequence was that no volume was made a part of the family possessions, and placed in the family library to be read indiscriminately by the younger members of the household, unless it had been read and its character understood. Now all that is changed. Books can be purchased for a mere song, and as the best and the worst are found side by side clothed in a like garb, in many a family library are works unread by the parents, who never dream that they are sometimes putting a mental and spiritual poison before their children as deadly in its way as the cobra bite is to the physical.

With so much that is good in literature, it can only be carelessness or neglectful thoughtlessness that can give mental food to the young which is poorer than the best. It is a wise father and an equally wise mother who will allow no book a place in the family book-cases, the character of which is not thoroughly understood. The best way to collect a library is, after obtaining what are known to be standard works, to buy of new publications only what one is assured is really valuable, then by personal reading make sure that it is what would be desirable to put into the hands of the young people.

WHAT DOES IT MATTER?

Probably some of my readers think that their libraries would be very limited if they waited for that. Possibly, but what does that matter? A few books carefully read and digested will be likely to be remembered and assimilated. The great evil of so much literature is a careless, superficial way of reading that makes small returns. One hears almost daily the plaint of not being able to remember, and it comes so often, as to induce a fear that memory will soon be a lost faculty. I do not believe it is owing to any real deterioration of brain-power but it is simply the result of a bad habit brought about by what might be named a reading dissipation. We skim over books and papers in order to get the cream of all without the effort of concentrative reading, and the result is our memories grow to be sieves through which the cream also takes its way.

HOW TO CHOOSE.

It is very hard not to dip into all of these books, especially such as are talked about among those in whose society we oftenest find ourselves, but the days are not long enough even did we read from sun to sun, to do anything more than "dip." And dipping unfortunately gives us little knowledge.

Then there are the magazines some of them full each month of the richest mental food. To undertake to keep pace with a tithe of these, or even with the best, is to try to accomplish an impossibility. Here again it is the part of wisdom to select out of the storehouse one or two of the highest character, and confine that part of your desultory reading to those. When there is something in some other that is making a stir in the literary, political or scientific world, there is usually the public library to resort to for the satisfaction of the time. For ordinary reading, however, one like *The North American Review*, *The Forum* or *The Popular Science Monthly*, and another of the first class illustrated monthlies made up of sketches, stories, poems, etc., are sufficient for family reading, or individual.

When we come to daily and weekly newspapers the trouble deepens. They are so many; they are so full of news. It is an easy matter to run into a absolute dissipation in the collection of daily papers alone the United States rejoices—if it be a matter of rejoicing—in 1494. Only think of that. And some of them contain matter enough each day to fill a good-sized book. It seems and is, a great deal, and yet I am reminded right here that in Paris more papers are published, and their circulation is larger, than in London, New York, Philadelphia and Boston combined. One paper in that city alone has a daily issue of 600,000.

The appetite for news has grown to such strength that few people are satisfied with one paper a day, but they must have several. Of course, they cannot be read, only scanned, which intensifies the tendency to superficial reading. As with magazines, the best way would be to limit newspapers to one good one a day, and this would enable a person to keep touch with what is going on in the world. A little more thought and discrimination in the matter would render books, magazines and papers better educators; and one would not feel so much like exclaiming, like Solomon, "Of making many books there is no end, and much study is a weariness to the flesh."

Emily S. Bouton.

ETIQUETTE OF RECEPTIONS.

Reqest comes for an article upon the etiquette of receptions, five o'clock teas, at homes, luncheons, etc., which shall be so full and plain, that one knowing nothing of city entertaining, may know exactly how to proceed.

First, then, as to Receptions. The invitations may be given in the following simple form:

MRS. D. BOWERS,
AT HOME,
TUESDAY, MAY 5,
Three to Six.

Of course the "Three to Six" means that the hostess will be ready to receive her friends at three, and that the time of reception closes at six.

The house may be prettily trimmed with flowers; the table set in the dining-room where simple refreshments are to be served, and then, attired in a pretty home costume, the lady is ready for her guests. There should be some one to open the door and indicate to the comers-in the way to the dressing room, where the outside wraps may be thrown off. The bonnet and gloves are retained. The hostess should be assisted by some friend, who will see that every guest is invited to the dining room during her stay. Here, again, should be those who will dispense this hospitality without awkwardness. The refreshments need not include more than coffee and sandwiches, though cake and ice cream are often added.

The guests come and go as they choose during the hours mentioned, staying a few minutes, a half hour, or an hour, as they like. The hostess should remain in the parlor near the entrance until the entertainment is over. Her duties are to give pleasant greetings to all who enter, and should anyone be a stranger, to introduce her to some well-known lady who will see that she is made acquainted with other guests.

One word more about the invitations. They may be written upon a large sized visiting card and enclosed in a fitting envelope, or upon heavy white paper that must be slipped into a square envelope with one fold. If a more elaborate affair is desired, the invitations may be engraved. Any little variations of style as to size, etc., can always be ascertained where these things are purchased. Just now terribly ragged edged paper is a la mode.

Any questions from correspondents regarding these matters will be gladly answered,

FANCY WORK AND HOUSE DECORATION.

BOOK MARKER.—Get a piece of broad elastic, perhaps a little more than a quarter of a yard in length, and join the ends together as if it were an ordinary garter. Have two pieces of ribbon, each twice as long as the elastic; put them together so that the right side of both is outside and run them together along the edge. Place the elastic between them, and sew the other two edges together, stretching the elastic out as much as is possible. When the ribbon is all sewed together, covering the elastic, let the latter return to its natural size. You will then have a circle with the ribbon wrinkled over it in pretty ridges. Fasten the joins in the ribbon and in the elastic together and make a rosette to cover the place. This marker is used by stretching it over the pages that have been read, leaving the others free.

Those made of triangular pieces of satin, painted or embroidered and then sewed together to slip upon the upper corner of leaves, have already been described in the HOUSEHOLD.

ANSWER TO A QUESTION.—In THE BLADE of March 27, F. D. wants to know how I stain with rosewood. I get the staining already prepared and apply with a woolen cloth after the article has been thoroughly sandpapered, then varnish after the staining has thoroughly dried. If she wants her settee for a room that is not used constantly, let her have a cushion over the entire seat, made of alternate rows of plush—any shade that will harmonize with the rosewood—and the blue and white bed-ticking, cross-stitched with silks of different colors, and tinsel, also, if she likes, with a pretty roll to correspond, and there will be a pretty seat or place to lie down if tired.

Have any of the sisters used any of the common rope for decorations? I have seen very heavy rope gilded and unwound at the ends and fixed into tassels for portieres, and a smaller size used for window curtains, but left in the unbleached state.

I have also seen pretty covers to scrap books made of felt sewed over your old book covers, and embroidered with rosebuds in arresine, or painted. I have one of knitting and fancy work patterns I took out of THE BLADE, and another I am making of war songs, poetry, etc., from the same source. And I think them well worthy of binding in a way they won't disgrace one's sitting room or parlor. I intend to make one for my BLADE postal album, only use satin instead of felt, and paint it with white Bristol board, and only use one side of the board, and paint or write something on the opposite side—that is, paste the postals on to one side, and decorate the other according to my fancy. If any of the sisters have a prettier way, I wish they would tell us. I wonder how many of the sisters leave the Household when they have finished any other part of the paper. I, for one, don't. I find so much of it well worth saving that I find the scrap books are accumulating.—MRS. ESTHER BURLINGAME, Ohio.

A PRETTY, AS WELL AS USEFUL, ORNAMENT.—Take a thin board or heavy cardboard, say 8x12 inches, and cover it with some bright colored plush. Now—don't laugh—but steal your iron dish-rag from the kitchen, remove a ring about an inch from each end, and so on to the top form a scallop, thoroughly gild and tack to your board. Put in fancy hairpins, breastpins, etc., even buttonhooks may be hung to the lower rings. It gives a dash of brilliancy on the wall very pleasing to the eye.—MRS. F. P. WALDEN, Nebraska.

KNITTING AND CROCHETING.

Knitting Abbreviations—k, knit; p, purl or seam; p 2 tog, purl two together; n, narrow; s and b, slip and bind; o t o, throw thread over; b, bind; o over, slip; m, make.

Crocheting Abbreviations—l, loop; s c, single crochet; d c, double crochet; ch st, chain stitch; ch st, close chain stitch; d ch st, doublechain stitch; p, picot; r c, ribbed crochet; c s st, crossed treble stitch; sh st, shell stitch; o s st, open shell stitch; tr, treble; sh c, short crochet.

NARROW EDGINGS—WHEAT EAR EDGE.—Cast on 5 stitches. First row—2 plain—o—1 plain—o 2—p 2 tog; 2 d row—o 2—p 2 tog—4 plain; 3d row—3 plain—o—k 1—o 2—p 2 tog; 4th row—o 2—p 2 tog—5 plain; 5th row—4 plain—o—k 1—o 2—p 2 tog; 6th row—o 2—p 2 tog—6 plain; 7th row—6 plain—o 2—p 2 tog; 8th row—o 2—p 2 tog—8 plain—make 1—k 1; 10th row—k 2 tog—cast off 4—k 3.

PANSY LACE.—Some one asks for Pansy lace. Here is my way: 1st row—ch 13—fasten with a sc in 8th * ch 4—s c in circle *—repeat from * to * twice more, making last s c in same place that ch of 8 was joined; 2d row—5 tr in 4 ch—fasten in 1st st of 13 ch—5 tr in same ch—s c on s c *—10 tr in next 4 ch—s c on s c *—repeat from * to * once more—6 s c on 5 ch. (This forms the stem.) Now you have completed one pansy for the next ch 20 fasten as before in 8th st—make 3 loops of 4 ch in circle—5 tr in first l—fasten in 6th st from first pansy—5 tr in same l—s c on s c—5 tr in next l—fasten to center of 3d leaf of previous pansy—5 tr in same l—s c on s c—10 tr in next l—s c on s c—6 s c on ch for stem as before, and repeat.

CORRESPONDENCE,

Heart Comfort.

BY S. S.

"Behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it."—Rev. iii, 8.

Sunshine and roses;
Heartbreaks and sorrow;
Heavens own messengers
Straight from the throne.
Earth has no resting place—
Life no to-morrow,
Where we may stop
To regret, or make moan.

Into each life
With its sunshine and sadness;
Into each heart
With its roses, and rue;
Cometh a voice
That in sweetness, commands us
"To watch our might,"
What our hands find to do."

Sunshine and roses;
Heartache and sadness;
Earth has no sorrow
That Heaven cannot cure.
Hearts, heavy laden,
May find joy and gladness,
In leading some wanderer
To the wide "open door."

WHAT SHALL WE DO WITH OUR DIPLOMAS?—The sentiment I am about to express are concerning the idea that certificates, family records, diplomas, etc., ornament (?) the walls! How interesting they are to others you may know by the interest you take in them when they are the property of some one else.

They are decidedly below par when viewed from an artistic standpoint. Appreciate them all you can. Take the best of care of them, too, but there are other places of safety in your homes besides a conspicuous, and valuable place on the walls. There is so much good in looking at pictures and they can be purchased so reasonably, every home should be supplied. Oil paintings, crayon, charcoal engravings, etchings, copies from noted pictures may be had and should be considered necessary.

Then don't frame your certificates, diplomas, records, etc., and hang them where a pleasing picture would look so much better.

We don't doubt you have a marriage certificate even if it is never displayed. As to diplomas, let your actions and words prove that you are entitled to one. Let your thoughts be your own because they come from within. Form your own opinions, compare them with others but think for yourself. The everyday occurrences should not be passed unnoticed, unobserved or unthought of.

Do not limit your part of the conversation to "Well" or "I don't know" or "Is that so?" If you don't know try to find out. Or balance the subject by knowing something else. I have seen persons, and so have you, who were unkind and unmannerly enough to let some one try to entertain them by the hour and not take any thought of the way their duty was shirked.

But they are not so very plenty I admit. We of the feminine gender do more than look sweet. The nineteenth century calls for women with brains, and they will fill honorable places with credit.—MRS. L. D. MORRIS.

FARMER'S WIFE'S VIEWS.—After having read "Farmer's Daughter's" letter it is impossible for me to sit quietly down and not say a word, for I am a farmer's wife. The farming community in which she lived must have been a very different one from any that I have ever seen. I would also like to say that I think more of the women who are overworked, have themselves to thank for it. I know of farmers who would be only too glad to have their wives keep help, but they will not. They are hard to please, and often the god of money is worshipped more than happiness. I do not keep a girl for I do not need one. I have a good husband, who helps me all he can and never grumbles when church day comes, but considers it as much a duty to attend Sunday services as he does to do his week day work. I know of men who would willingly help their wives more than they do, but the house is not a pleasant place for them—they hear nothing but grumbling, scolding and complaint while they are in the house.

It is quite often the case that a great many wives live beyond their husband's means, and this causes overwork, while trying to keep up appearances, and to lay by something for their children. Sometimes the children are not helping as they should, and are constantly giving their parents pain. What farmer's wife is there who does not experience a thrill of pleasure when she gets into her buggy, picks up her lines, and starts to town with her butter and eggs to do her trading? And what a pleasure it is to see the little children running and playing wherever they will in the bright warm sun, instead of being cooped in a small yard, or, as is often the way, allowed to run on the streets.

"Childhood days are fleeting fast,
Childhood joys will soon be past."

Then let the little children enjoy themselves all they can; and where can they enjoy themselves better than in the country? I would like to hear from some of the other farmers' wives on this subject, and I also think that some of the farmers ought to defend themselves, for if they do not we may think they *are* to blame.—MRS. KITTIE HOWELL.

FOR TOPSY.—So "Topsy" wants to know why more letters are not written for the "young girls"? Why, bless me modest mountain maiden, dear Miss Bouton has been giving us letters, week after week, containing words of wisdom for "us girls" of all ages. And quite a number of us, whose gray hairs say we ought to have learned lessons from experience, have tried to tell that which would interest the ones who would care to read. Then she says: "You will use other people's experience, nor have any of his own till it is too late to use it." But we may help each other a great deal for all that.

I fancy that "Topsy" belongs to a large class of gentle-girls, in spite of the misnomer she has chosen—the modest, homeloving, home-keeping kind, who are ready to appreciate but slow to appropriate what is not distinctly set apart for them. I am much pleased that she tries to write real letters. I am sure they are always welcome to those who receive them. I do not know that she needs it, but I would like to give one rule to all young letter writers: Don't write one word you cannot read aloud to your mother. And if there be anything in the letters you receive which you hesitate to show to your mother, be sure there is something wrong. It is a pretty good plan, and furnishes a vast deal of enjoyment if a gentle-girl makes a business of reading all her letters to her mother, for of course the mother of such a girl is a gentle-woman, and while she will aid her daughter to cultivate the best, will save her from ignorantly doing anything that might prove a haunting pain in the future.

Now, "Topsy," won't you choose some other name that is more "kith and kin" to your motive, and then tell us what you would like us to write about. I imagine you will have letters a plenty. Or, if Miss Bouton thinks such a course inadvisable, or others object to wasting so much valuable space, suppose we form a private "Correspondence Club." You doubtless know several young girls" to yourself who will join, and we'll discuss all sorts of questions. We will exchange notes on housebuilding, housekeeping and homemaking. We will take up the workings of the household machinery in detail, and exchange opinions as to the best and easiest way of running same. We like to have everything around us as comfortable and as pretty as possible, and we want to do it with as little expense as may be. We want to insure the comfort of those about us, and learn how to "treat ourselves well." In fact, to gain success, we want to "serve an apprenticeship to practical life." So you see there would be no lack of subjects to think and write about.

Yes, we would have room for the gentle boys, too. I like them. They could give us a deal of help, and we could make it mutually pleasant. There! If you like the project well enough to arrange details when we hear from you. But don't forget; I shall expect you to bring in notes on grass-plot and garden, ferns and flowers, and the many and varied beauties in nature's art store. We want to prove to our satisfaction that work and pleasure can be combined, and—but there! I am counting on your consent before I have in my mind. There are "words of wisdom" on every page you scan, if you but learn to read aright. May you have the best of success. "Leonna Lee" has permission.—JEANIE.

CORRESPONDENCE CLIPPINGS.

May I tell the Household about my scrap book of cooking recipes? It is a large scrap album, divided into departments, with the recipes assorted and put in their proper places. Space is left for the addition of new recipes. The first department is bread, and contains everything known in that line. Next pies; then cakes, and so on. In the pie department there are 86 recipes. I used gum tragacanth and gum arabic, made into mucilage, and ironed the leaves to prevent their wrinkling.—IRENE L. O.

Girls, always try to look your best; do not think the only time to be neat and trim is when you appear in society. Do not think it matters not if you come to the morning meal in a shabby dress with a pin where there should be a button, with your ironed collar or bright colored ribbon around your throat, and your head looking as though you had just had a miraculous escape from a cyclone or thunderstorm, simply because you are at home. Let me say home is the place to be tidy. Then when you appear in society, you will not be "uncomfortable and out of place." Yes, and when a young man comes to see you (as is often the case) let him know by your appearance and behavior that you are a true lady.—M. A. B.

I have just read Ruth's letter in THE BLADE of March 27, and think she is right in her opinion about using tobacco. It is certainly a very bad habit, but I do not think it is to be compared with intemperance, for that is certainly the most accursed habit of the human family to-day. If a young man possessed a good character in other respects, that fault could be endured for his other good qualities.

I have heard young ladies say: "I want a husband with plenty of money, no matter what kind of a man he is." Such girls give happiness for wealth. Others care little for money but require a man of good morals and refinement. The latter are the ones that make a happy home, and if their husbands have bad habits, they will try to overcome them for the respect they have for their wives.

If you are thinking of marrying, and the man of your choice uses tobacco, do not let that stop you if he is a gentleman in other respects. If he does not quit the habit after you are married, he will try to make it as agreeable as he can. And while you should try to keep any one from drinking, *never marry* a man who drinks. Do all you can to reform him, but draw the line at marrying him. He will *not* reform, but will blight your life and ruin himself. I have seen it tried and it has never proved a success, to my knowledge. I am not addicted to the use of tobacco, I smoke a cigar occasionally, but could quit that if necessary. Neither do I uphold the use of it, if it can be helped; but there are many worse evils than it, and of all, I prefer the least.—A READER.

INQUIRIES.

Will some one send instructions for china painting? What paints to use, especially for the gold bands, and how to use them?—MRS. L. M. BRIGGS.

Will "Trixy" send recipe for custard cake? Add will some one send directions for crocheting pine-apple lace?—SUBSCRIBER.

Will some one send recipe for making bouillon, such as is used at receptions? Will the temperance story, "Teetoller Dick," ever be published in book form? If not, we are very anxious to keep all of the papers for our little son. He is now too small to understand it.—MRS. N. E. S. [We do not know.—ED.]

Will the lady who wrote last year of "mock peach mangoes" tell how to prepare them? We have tried them in preserves, sweet pickles and in pies with good results.—MRS. MARY LOVELAND.

I have two black calf skins, of which I wish to make a lap-robe for my carriage. Will some one tell me how to dress them, and how to make the robe? Will some one tell me how to knit a tidy for a rocking chair?—SUBSCRIBER.

Will some one tell me how to make a pretty lambrequin?—S. O. D.

What will restore the luster to a gilt frame which has become tarnished? Will you repeat the remedy given for removing freckles with strawberries? I am in doubt whether it was the strawberry juice or the leaves steeped which effected the cure.—COLORADO CACTUS.

Will some one send the directions for double roseleaf edging? Also for roseleaf edging?—MRS. M. E. F.

Will some one tell me what will remove ink stains from a Brussel's carpet?—EIGHTEEN.

I would like to know what will remove a wart from the chin of my little granddaughter?—GRANDMA.

Will some one tell me a remedy for chapped or fissured lips? Something that has been tried and found good.—C. J. B.

Will "R. M. G.," who gave directions for woven rug, a year or so ago, tell us if old three-ply ingrain carpet could be used the same as the gathered rags, and if so, must it be cut on the bias? How many pounds of rags does it take for a rug 1½ yards long and ¾ of a yard wide?

Will some one tell how to color cotton rags for carpet, with red that will not fade? Something not too expensive. Does any one know anything about "Coffin's Red?" Also how to wash cream colored scrimp curtains so as to retain their color? And give directions for a table cover, size 2 yards square, suitable for use in a sitting room.—L. B. K. B.

Will you give a recipe for fruit cookies? Also a good way to curl plumes?—MINNIE L.

I wish some one would tell me something of the culture of pansies.—INA LOLA.

ANSWERS TO INQUIRIES.

Will our HOUSEHOLD correspondents bear in mind that, in order to receive attention, their communications must be written with ink, on one side only of their paper, and signed with their true names, as well as the names they wish published. The observance of these rules may save much disappointment.

"Myrtle Midway."—Persons can be married in Ohio without the consent of their parents, if they are of age.—ED.

RUE.—"Mrs. President" is a proper form of address for the presiding officer of a ladies' convention, or local society.—ED.

Miss H. A. Stearns.—Your brother would better apply to some florist. We cannot publish your request in this department.—ED.

Nellie.—If the young man to whom you are engaged, is innocent of the charges made against him, he ought to be willing to prove his innocence. While you should certainly give him every encouragement to do this, you should also give due respect to the wishes of your parents and friends, who have your interest at heart, and who many times far better judges of the young man's character than you are.—ED.

"Eighteen"—If your friends are fond of dancing, they can be entertained in that way for a part of the time. Any of the games usually indulged in by young people will be appropriate at a birthday party. The hostess should not "expect" gifts from her guests, although it is a very common custom for her to receive them. Cake and cream would be very suitable, if you do not desire more elaborate refreshments, and these should be served in the most informal manner, at occasional tables. The pleasure of such a party depends much upon the absence of all formality in the arrangements.—[ED.

If "Sister Sue" will lay clean cobs on a bed of coals, then sprinkle salt on them, and when they begin to smoke shake her tips in the smoke, it will curl them nicely.—SUBSCRIBER.

"Jerusha Jane," if you will dip your plants in hot water, it will destroy the ants and not hurt the plants. If you think it will hurt them, try a leaf or branch in the water first.—INA LOLA.

Has the lady who got boiled linseed oil upon her white bureau cover and bedspread tried gasoline? We have not been able to learn of anything else that will remove it.—ED.

Jessie Spencer, Ill.—There is a most excellent school of the kind you speak of in Toledo. Address inquiries to Academy of Fine Arts, Blade Building, Toledo, O.—ED.

M. L.: An inexpensive and yet very nice *menu* for a small company at luncheon or in the evening is the following:

1. Raw oysters; salted almonds; olives; celery. 2. Scalloped salmon; chicken salad; rolls; brown bread. 3. Charlotte russe. 4. Coffee.

To MRS. JOEL BASS (Toledo BLADE February 20, 1890,) who asks what "frigot" means. It is tine. In laces made with knitting needles, near the upper or straight edge, is sometimes a row that looks like herring bone stitch; the name for that is fagoting.—MRS. A. E. S. TAYLOR, Pennsylvania.

We tried using borax for washing black zephyr (as directed in the HOUSEHOLD), and were pleased with the result.—OHIO MOSS.

J. G. B., Pennsylvania: Write to the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., and you will receive information regarding silk worm culture.—ED.

Will some one tell me the meaning of "tr," an abbreviation for crocheting?—MISS LEONA LITSEY, New Mexico.

It means treble.—ED.

RECIPES.

BAKING POWDER DOUGHNUTS.—1 cupful of white sugar; 2 eggs; 1 tablespoonful of cream, or a small piece of butter, the size of a walnut; 1 cupful of milk; 2 teaspoonfuls baking power. Beat eggs and sugar together one-half hour before putting in the flour; this will make them very white. Add flour to make them about the same consistency of cookies.—MRS. E. H. HUBBELL.

CUSTARD CAKE.—One cupful of sugar; 3 eggs; 1 tablespoonful melted butter; 3 tablespoonfuls sweet milk; 1½ cupfuls flour; 2 teaspoonfuls baking powder.

CUSTARD FOR CAKE.—Two eggs; ½ cupful sugar; 1 large spoonful flour. Mix smooth with a little sweet milk; stir that into nearly 1 pt. of boiling milk; add flavoring.

LOAF CAKE.—One cupful sugar; ½ cupful butter; 3 eggs; ½ cupful sweet milk; 3 teaspoonfuls baking powder; 3 cupfuls flour. Save out the white of 1 egg for frosting. Flavor with vanilla.—KATE.

HOME-MADE BAKING POWDER.—Two lbs. bicarbonate of soda, cost 12 cents; 1 lb. tartaric acid, 75 cents; ½ lb. cream tartar, 18 cents; 12 ozs. wheat flour, 2 cents. This makes 4 lbs. baking powder for $1.07.—M. E. F.

POTATO OMELET.—For 1 pt. of cold, mashed potatoes, take 3 eggs, and beat together; add 1 teaspoonful new milk; stir well and pour into a hot skillet in which a spoonful of butter is omeletted. Stir while cooking, which only takes a short time, and serve immediately.

DOUGHNUTS.—2 eggs, 2 cupfuls sugar, 2 cupfuls thin cream, 2 teaspoonfuls baking powder; flour to roll. Cut in rings or twist, and fry in hot lard. Sprinkle with granulated sugar.—MRS. BRUCE.

TO REMOVE THE LIDS OF SELF SEASING CANS.—Place the can upside down in a vessel containing warm water, and set it melted on the stove. Heat the water gradually. If left long enough the top can be removed without any difficulty.—L. B. K. B.

Our Young Folks.

BLADE TEMPERANCE LEGION.

MOTTO: "Of Ourselves We Will be Masters."

Pledge:

We do hereby promise ourselves that, from this time until we are 21 years old, we will not taste intoxicating liquors of any kind, and that we will exert all our influence to prevent their use by others. Witness our names:

LOVELAND, COLO.	Arthur Tisdel
Lillie Skiles	Lydia Graves
Maud Skiles	Myron Tisdel
Laura Skiles	Lillie Graves
DOWNS, ILL.	Bennie McCullough
Lutie Kershaw	Susie Graves
Lavina Downs	Leo Heskett
Elmer Downs	Florence Jones
Bertha Mason	Frank Heskett
Stanley Myers	Laura Jones
May Oliver	Charlie Heskett
Sadie Downs	Lillith Mead
Chloe Downs	H B Tuttle
Price Downs	Virgie Mead
ELLIM, NEB.	Frank Shrimpton
Mary Jones	Beulah Russell
Willie Jordan	Willie Vandervort
Delia Clark	Carrie Felt
Carl Jordan	Clarence Miller
Daisy Heskett	Claude Chandler
Lena Wolfe	Mattie Lesher
Maud Spurlock	Walter Martin
Myri Wolfe	Clara Lesner
Rhoanie Neely	George D Griffiths
Clyde Campbell	Alma Savage
Minnie Jennings	John Ayres
Claude Lawler	Letha Ranger
Verda Allen	Ray B Huston
George A Thorne	Grace Myrtle
Maud Bloom	Henry W Griffiths
Percy Goodell	Daisy Graves
Anna Slater	Frank Savage
Preston Martin	Gertie Griffiths
Minnie Tisdel	Bussa Savage
Lloyd Bright	Carrie Lacey
Mary Tisdel	David Ward
Bliss Bright	Ethel Barker
Isa Bright	Edna Martin
Robert Griffiths	Winnie Mead
Libbie Willis	Ina Mead
Bertie Mead	Verna Mead
Lula Myrten	Jennie Williamson
Lynnie Walker	Mollie McCullough
Mamie Fisher	Ruth Griffiths
Delos Tisdel	Foy Griffiths
Susie Willis	

Names this week, 88. Total, 29,333.

The above embraces all names received up to April 26.

THEIR HONEST OPINIONS.

BY EUDORA S. BUMSTEAD.

Alfred lay on the straw by the stable;
To walk or to stand he was quite unable.
Old Dobbin stepped around for a visit;
But he only said, "Tobacco, is it?
Well, be a goose if you must!"
And he walked away in disgust.

Then out at him rushed a cross old gander,
And hotly hissed, "What a hateful slander!
Did I ever cut such a foolish figure,
Or think such a thing would make me bigger?
It was all for his peacock pride!"
And he scornfully waddled aside.

Then round and round him the peacock strutted,
Fearing his name would thus be smutted.
"Do you think," cried he, "that I'd have done it,
Just because I was told to shun it?
Only a boy or mule
Would ever have been such a fool!"

But the mule brayed back, "You vain old screecher,
In what am I like to such a creature?
I'll have my way, whatever I'm doing,
But it's not my way to be smoking and chewing!
No, it's not my way, but it's his;
Just see what a pig he is!"

Then out came the hog in consternation,
For fear they would ruin his reputation.
He dined on swill; with mud he was pasted;
But tobacco he couldn't and wouldn't have tasted.
"For I know it would never agree
With good, clean dirt," said he.

And so the beasts all gathered about him,
To jeer and to sneer, to chide and to flout him;
Neighing, braying, squealing and hissing,
Till at last they saw that the boy was missing.
For he silently crept away,
And hid himself in the hay.

—[Union Signal.

For the Young Folks.

LAGUNA BEACH.

ZETILLA TALBOT.

WOULD some of the girls and boys like to hear about a day at the seashore? Many of you have been there no doubt, but many others have only read about it. We live about two miles from the Pacific ocean and drive down quite often. One day we thought we would take a ride to Laguna beach, which is eighteen miles away.

We started about 7 o'clock. The morning was a little cloudy, or as we say in California, there was a "high fog." For this we were very glad, as it would be cooler and pleasanter riding. The first ten miles was through the beautiful Santa Ana valley, then we entered the foothills and followed the narrow canon to the coast. At first we ascended several hundred feet by several hills that were not very steep, but sometimes the road was so narrow there was not room for teams to pass—on one side a deep ravine, on the other a wall of rock. The last five miles was a gradual slope to the mouth of the canon.

Just after passing the highest point we came to a pretty little lake resting at the base of the low round hills. It must have been fed by springs from the mountains, for there had been no rain for several months. The water was clear and fresh and a large flock of sheep was drinking of it. The shepherd was near wearily watching them. It seems to me he must have been weary always in that mountainous region with no human companion. Such a dreary, desolate life it must be! Perhaps for days the only friendly sound he heard was the meek bleating of the lambs. He would take his flock off over the hills to graze in the afternoon, and the second day following bring them back again to the lake. They can do without water every other day and not hurt them.

As we went on down the canon sometimes the way ahead would look like a blind wall with no way of getting out but the way we came in. But as we came nearer we could see that the road wound round the point of a hill that in the distance we could not distinguish from the rocks on the opposite side.

A dozen or more little houses were scattered along surrounded with their garden patches of corn and barley. Cattle grazed on the sides of the hills so steep that in some places it looked as though a misstep would send them tumbling down on the houses.

At length we passed between the last of the hills where the canon opened on the beach. The high bluff at either side extended up and down the coast. A row of cottages facing the sea; a hotel, very modest in itself, but boasting of those broad, shady piazzas for which California houses are noted; white tents dotting the ground everywhere in number far surpassing the houses—this is Laguna. To the left of the hotel the bluffs rise abruptly from the white wave-washed sand, and on the top are a number of pretty cottages.

The beauty of Laguna is the rocks. Both above and below the camp the coast is very picturesque. The level sandy beach extended but a short distance till the rocks rose abruptly as if bidding defiance to the sea to come farther. The great boulders lay at low tide dry and rugged, but at high tide they were washed continually by the water and enveloped in a sheet of mist. We climbed in and out, up and down watching our chance to get from one point to another as the water receded.

At one place we walked around a point on a ledge of rock two or three feet wide just above the water. Here we came to a high cliff so steep and straight there seemingly seemed foothold for a bird.

Three little girls had scaled this cliff a year ago. It made me shudder to think of it as my friend told me the story. I seemed to see them hanging over the surging water that looked black and angry as if warning of the danger. Clinging to the fragments of rock with scarce room for one foot at a time, trembling as they looked down yet fearing to look up; hardly able to go on yet less able to go back, they finally reached the Fisherman's cove which was just on the other side. Three more frightened children you will seldom see. The youngest had cried all the way, and I think none of them will try it again.

In the cove the water riffles over the sand with scarcely a murmur. But a little way out are the rocks which receive the force of the waves and are constantly covered with foam. Here all the boats are launched. A small fishing boat came in while we were there. From all appearances they had not been very successful, as they only had one small fish and that an ugly looking creature.

The waves run most too high at Laguna to make the bathing altogether safe, and yet it is one of the chief attractions. Oh! what fun they were having! But the laughter and fun were all drowned by the rush of water and the cracking of the waves. There were a few brave ones who swam out beyond the breakers; others diving through the waves as they rose to the greatest height were lost to sight for an instant, but the greatest number kept hold of the rope and then had a hard time to regain their feet as the water surged in and out.

Seaweed drifts in great masses on the beach and the beautiful moss which is used so much in making moss pictures is found here in great quantities. Abalone shells are pried off the rocks by enthusiastic shell hunters. Coffee shells are washed in among the rocks and the dainty little wheat shells are found in the sand. All the common shells are found most anywhere, but these have to be sought especially. We did as most every one does, gathered up a pocketful of shells to throw them nearly all away when we got home.

Did you ever see a star fish? The most common kind are of a yellowish sand co or and are wanted more for a curiosity than for beauty. They have five points or arms, and when dried with the arms placed that retain their shape. There are different colored ones. The prettiest one I ever saw was a bright red, dotted all over with little balls of bright yellow. It looked like a red puccinion stuck full of yellow headed pins. Then there are some of a purple color. They are sometimes found clinging to the rocks under the water.

Many people come here from the cities and towns around to enjoy the sea breeze and the water. The children are always hunting shells, digging in the sand and fishing. While for those who care to hunt there are rabbits and quail in the hills back from the beach. Here busy people find time to read and tired people time to rest, for the only kinds of business carried on are eating, sleeping and bathing.

A ROYAL ADVENTURE.

Maxamillian Joseph, the late king of Bavaria, was one summer day sitting in plain civil costume in the garden of his palace at Tegernsee. The heat was indeed great, and it was so very hot in the garden that the king fell asleep over the book he was reading. He laid it down beside him on the bench and continued to slumber. When he awoke he thought he would drive away his drowsiness by taking a walk. The road, which took him farther and farther away from the garden, brought him at last to the meadow which extended on both sides from the shores of the beautiful lake near which the palace stood.

Here the king remembered his book which he had left lying on the bench in the park. If any one passed by they might take the volume, which, being rather a rare one, the king did not wish to lose. As he was unwilling to return the same way, he looked about for some one who would fetch the book to him, but far and wide he could not see a single human being, except a boy who was watching a flock of geese. The king went up to him and said: "Listen, my boy, you can go and fetch me a book which I have left lying on a bench in the park, and you shall have all corn for your trouble."

The lad, who did not know the king, looked at the gentleman with much distrust. A florin for so small a service seemed to him to be so large an offer as to be a hoax.

"I am not the simpleton you take me for," said he, turning away.

"What makes you think that I take you for a simpleton?" asked the king, smiling, pleased with the open manner of the lad.

"Because you offer me a florin for such a trifling service," replied the boy; "money is not earned so easily. The people down there," he added, pointing his finger to the distant palace, "take us for fools, and I know you are one of them."

"Well, what if I am?" said the king. "Come, here's half a florin in advance! Now go and fetch me the book."

The boy's eyes sparkled when he held the money in his hand, for he did not get much more than that for looking after the geese for the whole year, but still he hesitated.

"Well," asked the king, "why don't you go?"

The boy pushed his cap on one side and scratched himself behind the ear.

"Yes," said he, "I will—but—I dare not. If the farmers heard that I left the geese they would dismiss me, and I should lose my daily bread."

"I'll watch them till you come back again."

"You," replied the boy, measuring the stranger from top to toe; "you don't look to me like one that could take care of geese. If they were to run away and get lost in these meadows I might have to pay more than I should earn in a year. Look at that fellow with a black head, who belongs to the court gardener; he is an awful old bird, a deserter, a good-for-nothing, like all people who have to do with a court; he would play you fine tricks whilst I was away. No, not that would not do."

"But why should not I be able to keep these geese in order as well as I succeed in keeping men in order?" said the king.

"You," replied the lad again, eying the monarch with a grin. "They must be fine fellows, indeed! Ah! now I have it! You are a schoolmaster. I tell you boys are much easier managed than geese."

"Possibly," said the king, quick. Will you fetch

Talmage's Sermon.

GOD'S GREAT GLORY IN NATURE.

The Brooklyn Preacher Talks Eloquently of the Manifestations of the Divine Power in Every Tree and Flower.

BROOKLYN, April 27.—The attraction of the pews and their new spring-time garb, which affects many congregations at this season, does not diminish the crowd which pours into the Academy of Music to hear the eloquent preacher. This morning the great edifice was thronged as usual, as soon as the doors were opened. After the reading of an appropriate passage of Scripture and the singing of the hymn, "Glory to God on High," Dr. Talmage announced as his text Isaiah lx. 13: "The glory of Lebanon shall come unto thee, the fir-tree, the pine-tree, and the box together, to beautify the place of my sanctuary." Following is his sermon in full:

On our way from Damascus, we saw the mountains of Lebanon, white with snow, and the place from which the cedars were in ancient time thrown by the teams down to the Mediterranean sea, and then floated in great rafts to Joppa and then again drawn by ox teams to Jerusalem to build Solomon's temple. Those mighty trees in my text are called the "glory of Lebanon." Inanimate nature felt the effects of the first transgression. When Eve touched the forbidden tree, it seems as if the sinful contact thrust sin then not only that tree, but as if the air caught the pollution from the leaves, and as if the sap had carried the virus down into the very soil until the entire earth reeked with the leprosy. Under that sinful touch nature withered. The inanimate creation, as if aware of the damage done it, sent up the thorn and brier and nettle to wound and fiercely oppose the human race. Now as the physical earth felt the effects of the first transgression, so it shall also feel the effect of the Saviour's mission. As from that one tree in Paradise a blight went forth through the entire earth, so from one tree on Calvary another force shall speed out to interpenetrate and cheer, sanctify and overcome the evil. In the end it shall be found that the tree of Calvary has more potency than the tree of Paradise. As the nations are evangelized, I think a corresponding change will be effected in the natural world. I verily believe that the trees, and the birds, and the rivers, and the skies will have their millennium. It man's sin affected the ground, and the vegetation and the atmosphere, shall Christ's work be

Less Powerful or Less Extensive?

Doubtless God will take the irregularity and ferociousness from the elements so as to make them congenial to the race, which will then be symmetrical and evangelized. The ground shall not be so lavish of weeds and so grudgeful of grain. Soils which now have peculiar proclivities toward certain forms of evil production will be delivered from their besetting sins. Steep mountains, plowed down into more gradual ascent, shall be girdled with flocks of sheep and shocks of corn. The wet marsh shall become the deep grassed meadow. Cattle shall eat unpoisonous grass where once haunted of wild beasts. Children will build play-houses in what was once a cave of serpents; and as the Scripture saith: "The weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice's den."

Oh, what harvests shall be reaped when neither drouth, nor excessive rain, nor mildew, nor the chinch bug shall arrest the growth, and the utmost capacity of the fields for protection shall be tested by an intelligent and athletic yeomary. Thrift and competency characterize the world's inhabitants, their dwelling places shall be graceful and healthy and adorned. Tree and arbor and grove about will look as if Adam and Eve had just left Paradise. Great cities, now neglected and unwashed, shall be orderly, adorned with architectural symmetry, and connected with far distant seaports by present modes of transportation carried to their greatest perfection, or by new inventions yet to spring up out of the water or drop from the air at the beck of a Horse or Isaiah. Men belonging to future generations. Isaiah in my text seems to look forward to the future condition of the physical earth as a condition of great beauty and excellence, and then prophesies that as the strongest and most ornamental timber in Lebanon was brought down to Jerusalem and constructed into the ancient temple, so all that is beautiful and excellent in the physical earth shall yet contribute to the church now being built in the world. "The glory of Lebanon shall come unto thee; the fir tree, the pine tree and the box together, to beautify the place of my sanctuary."

Much of this prophesy has already been fulfilled, and I proceed to some practical remarks upon the revolution which the natural world is making to the kingdom of God, and then draw some inferences. The first contribution that nature gives to the church is her testimony in behalf of the truth of Christianity. This is an age of profound research. Nature cannot evade men's inquiries as once. In chemist's laboratory she is put to the rack and compelled to give up her mysteries. Hidden laws have come out of their hiding places. The earth and the heavens, since they have been ransacked by geologist and botanist and astronomer, appear so different from what they once were that they may be called "the new heavens and the new earth."

This Research and Discovery

will have powerful effect upon the religious world. They must either advance or arrest Christianity, make men better or make them worse, be the church's honor or the church's curse. Geologists, who were in the early ages of discovery, were nervous and fearful as to the progress of science. They feared that some natural law, before unknown, would suddenly spring into harsh collision with Christianity. Gunpowder and the gleam of swords would not so much have been feared by religionists as electric batteries, voltaic piles, and astronomical apparatus. It was feared that Moses and the prophets would be run over by skeptical chariot wheels. Some of the followers of Aristotle, after the invention of the telescope, refused to look through that instrument lest what they saw would overthrow the teachings of that great philosopher. But the Christian religion has no such apprehension now. Bring on your telescopes and microscopes and spectroscopes—and the more the better. The God of nature is the God of the Bible, and in all the universe, and in all the eternities. He has never once contradicted himself. Christian merchants endow universities, and in them Christian professors instruct the children of Christian communities. The warmest and most enthusiastic friends of Christ are the bravest and most enthusiastic friends of science. The church rejoices as much over every discovery as the world rejoices. Good men have found that there is no war between science and religion. That which at first has seemed to be the weapon of the infidel has turned out to be the weapon of the Christian.

Scientific discoveries may be divided into those which are concluded, and those which are still in progress, depending for decision upon future investigation. Those which are concluded have invariably rendered their verdict for Christianity, and we have faith to believe that those which are still in prosecution will come to as favorable a conclusion. The great systems of error are failing before these discoveries, which have only demonstrated the truth of the Bible, and so reinforced Christianity. Mohammedanism, and paganism in their ten thousand forms have been proved false, and by gre t natural laws shown to be impositions. Buried cities have been exhumed, and the truth of God found written on their coffin lids. Bartlett, Robinson and Layard have been not more the apostles of science than the apostles of religion. The dumb lips of the pyramids have opened to preach the gospel. Expeditions have been fitted out for Palestine, and explorers have come back to say that they have found among mountains, and among ruins, and on the shore of waters, living and undying evidence of

Our Glorious Christianity.

Men who have gone to Palestine infidels have come back Christians. They who were blind and deaf to the truth at home have seemed to see Christ again preaching upon Olivet, and have beheld in vivid imagination the Son of God again walking the hills about Jerusalem. Cavigila once rejected the truth, but afterward said: "I came to Egypt, and the Scriptures and the pyramids converted me." When I was in Beyrout, Syria, last December, our beloved American missionary, Rev. Dr. Jessup, told me of his friend who met a skeptic at Joppa, the seaport of Jerusalem, and the unbeliever said to his friend: "I am going into the Holy Land to show up the folly of the Christian religion. I am going to visit all the so-called 'sacred places' and write them up and show them that the New Testament is an imposition upon the world's credulity." Months after, Doctor Jessup's friend met the skeptic at Beyrout, after he had completed his journey through the Holy Land. "Well, how is it?" said the aforesaid gentleman to the skeptic. The answer was: "I have seen it all and I tell you the Bible is true! Yes, it is all true." The man who went to destroy came back to defend. After what I myself saw during my recent absence, I conclude that anyone who can go through the Holy Land and remain an unbeliever is either a bad man or an imbecile. God employed men to write the Bible, but he took many of the same truths which they recorded, and with his own almighty hands he gouged them into the rocks and drove them down into dismal depths, and, as documents are put in the corner-stone of a temple, so in the very foundation of the earth he folded up and placed the records of heavenly truth. The earth's corner stone was laid, like that of other sacred edifices, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. The Author of revelation, standing among the great strata, looked upon Moses, and said: "Let us record for future ages the world's history; you write it there on papyrus;

I Will Write It Here on the Boulders."

Would David set forth the freshness and beauty of genuine Christian character—he sees an eagle starting from its nest just after the moulting season, its old feathers shed, and its wings and breast decked with new down and plumes, its body as finely feathered as that of her young ones just beginning to try the speed of their wings. Thus rejuvenated and repinned is the Christian's faith and hope, by every spring-time of communion with God. "Thy youth is renewed like the eagle's." Would Solomon represent the annoyance of a contentious woman's tongue, he points to a leakage in the top of his house or tent, where, throughout the stormy day, the water comes through, falling upon the floor—drip! drip! drip! And he says, "A continual dripping in a very rainy day, and a contentious woman are alike." Would Christ set forth the character of those who make great profession of piety, but have no fruit, he compares them to barren fig-trees which have very large and showy leaves, and nothing but leaves. Would Job illustrate deceitful friendship, he speaks of brooks in those climes that wind about in different directions, and dry up when you want to drink out of them: "My brethren have dealt deceitfully as a brook, and as the stream of brooks they pass away." David when he would impress us with the despondency into which he had sunk, compares it to a quagmire of those regions, through which he had floundering sometimes tried to walk, but sunk in up to his neck, and he cried, "I sink in deep mud where there is no standing." Would Habakkuk set forth the capacity which God gives the good man to walk safely amid the wildest perils, he points to the wild animal called the hind walking over slippery rocks, and leaping from wild crag to wild crag, by the peculiar make of its hoofs able calmly to sustain itself in the most dangerous places: "The Lord is my strength, and he will make my feet like a hind's feet."

Job also with all natural color pay tribute to the royalty of his book. As you go through some chapters of Job you feel as if it were a bright spring morning, and as you see the glittering drops from the grass under your feet you say with that patriarch, "Who hath begotten the drops of the dew?" And now, as you read on, you seem in the silent midnight to behold the waving of a great light upon your path, and you look up to find it the aurora borealis, which Job described so long ago as "the bright light in the clouds and the splendor that cometh out of the north." As you read on, there is darkness hurtling in the heavens, and the showers break loose till they fall deafly on your ears

WASHINGTON NEWS.

FIFTY-FIRST CONGRESS.

Deliberations of the Two Houses for the Week.

WASHINGTON, April 22.—Mr. Cockrell offered a resolution (which was agreed to) directing the superintendents of the census to communicate to the Senate the forms of the rules and regulations adopted by him for obtaining statistics as to farm mortgages.

Mr. Plumb's resolution, heretofore offered, for the increase of the Treasury purchase and coinage of silver, was presented, and Mr. Eustis moved, as an addition to it, a further resolution that the free coinage of silver is essential to a sound financial policy, and is demanded by all the great interests of the country, and that therefore all laws limiting the coinage of silver ought to be repealed.

Mr. Morrill, from the conference committee on the bill for the organization, improvement and maintenance of the National Zoological park, reported that the committee had been unable to agree, and he moved that the Senate recede from its position and agree to the House amendment, which requires half the expenses to be paid by the district government. After some discussion the motion was agreed to and the bill now goes to the President for his signature.

The District of Columbia appropriation bill was passed and, after an executive session, the Senate adjourned.

In the House Mr. Dingley, of Maine, from the committee on Ways and Means, reported a bill providing for the classification of worsted cloths and woolens. The Secretary of the Treasury is authorized and directed to classify as woolen cloths all imports of worsted cloth or under the name of worsteds or drapeaus, or otherwise. Committee on the Whole.

Mr. Hedley, of Massachusetts, moved that the House concur in the Senate amendments to the world's fair bill. This being agreed to the bill is finally passed and will be sent to the President for his action.

The House then went into committee of the Whole, Mr. Payson, of Illinois, in the chair, on the legislative appropriation bill, but did not reach a vote.

WASHINGTON, April 23.—Mr. Plumb gave notice that he would tomorrow ask the Senate to consider his resolution as to an increase of silver coinage.

Mr. Ransom addressed the Senate in support of his bill (introduced last Monday) to repeal all laws for the retirement of officers of the army, navy, marine corps, and of the judiciary, from active service on pay.

Mr. Platt presented the conference report on the Senate bill to provide a temporary government for the Territory of Oklahoma. After debate the report was agreed to—yeas 50, nays 5, (Senators Butler, Cockrell, Pugh, Quay and Vest).

Senate bill to amend and further extend the benefits of the act approved February 8, 1887, entitled "An act to provide for the allotment of land in severalty to Indians on the various reservations and to extend the protection of the laws of the United States and Territories over the Indians and for other purposes," was passed.

The land forfeiture bill was taken up and became the "unfinished business," and the Senate adjourned.

In the House, Mr. Harmer, of Pennsylvania, presented a memorial of the Manufacturers' club of Philadelphia, representing many millions of capital invested in American industries and many thousands of workmen earning American wages, in favor of prompt action on tariff legislation which shall check the importation of articles produced by our own people. Referred.

The House then went into committee of the Whole (Mr. Payson, of Illinois, in the chair) on the legislative appropriation bill, the pending question being on the motion of Mr. Dunnell, of Minnesota, to strike out the clause providing clerks for senators.

After considerable debate the motion to strike out was lost by a vote of 85 to 97. Pending further clerical work the committee rose and the House adjourned.

WASHINGTON, April 24.—The Senate bill appropriating $50,000 for an equestrian statute at Manchester, N. H., of Maj. Gen. John E. Stark was taken up and passed—yeas 37, nays 15.

Mr. Hoar, from the committee on Privileges and Elections, reported (as an original measure) a bill to amend and supplement the election laws of the United States, and to provide for a more effic ent enforcement of such laws, and it was placed on the calendar.

The land forfeiture bill w s then taken up as the "unfinished business." The amendments reported from the Public Lands committee were agreed to. After a brief executive session the Senate adjourned.

The House went into committee of the Whole (Mr. Payson, of Illinois, in the chair) on the legislative appropriation bill.

Mr. Cummings, of New York, moved to increase the salaries of three House laborers, known as "clean room" men, from $600 to $720. He did so, he said, to make the salaries equal to those of other laborers. Rejected.

When the clause appropriating salaries for the civil service commission was reached Mr. Cummings, of New York, made the point of order that it was not authorized by law. The chair ruled. Mr. Dorsey, of Nebraska, moved to reduce the number of commissioners from three to one. He thought that one commissioner was enough to carry on the little bureau of the government. Rejected—yeas, 87; nays, 128. Mr. Reed offered an amendment exempting ex-soldiers from the provisions of the civil service law. Ruled out.

Mr. Heath, of Tennessee, moved to strike out the enacting clause of the bill. He opposed it, however, that it was not proper at this time to make the appropriation. He was not here to oppose the highest possible perfection to be obtained in the civil service of the government. He desired that the government employes, high and low, should be selected by reason of their merits, but the difference between him and the professional civil service reformers were that the latter divided mankind into two classes—we, the saints and you, the sinners—the spoilsmen and rascals. He desired the government run on business principles. He desired to see merit recognized; but he did not believe in this with wheel to the wagon. Lost 61 to 120. Adjourned.

WASHINGTON, April 25.—The Senate bill constituting Gladstone, Mich., a port of delivery in the customs district of Superior was reported and passed.

The Senate resumed consideration of the railroad land forfeiture bill, and after some discussion it went over without action until Monday next.

Mr. Gibson offered a joint resolution declaring the profound sorrow of the Senate at the announcement of the death of Hon. Edward Gay, late a representative from the state of Louisiana, and suspending the business of the Senate to give opportunity for tributes to Mr. Gay's eminent public and private virtues. Embodied were pronounced by Senators Gibson, Cockrell and Eustis. The resolutions were agreed to and as a further mark of respect the Senate adjourned.

In the House, Mr. O'Neill, of Pennsylvania, presented the proceedings of a meeting of business men of Philadelphia and a memorial with 1,000 signatures and the signatures of the Board of Trade of that city, asking the aid of Congress in the promotion of the building of American ships to trade with foreign ports, and to establish direct mail communication with the western coast of Africa. Referred.

Mr. Flower, of New York, presented a petition of 75 dry goods commission houses and woolen manufacturers of New York city asking for the passage of the bill classifying worsted with woolens. Referred.

The House went into committee of the whole on the legislative appropriation bill.

Without completing the consideration of the bill, the committee rose and the House took a recess—the evening session to be for the consideration of private pension bills.

The House, at the evening session, passed 30 private pension bills, and at 10:30 adjourned till to-morrow.

WASHINGTON, April 26.—The Senate devoted its time to-day to the calendar. Senate bill to carry out the terms of the agreement with the Sioux Indians of Dakota for the sale of a portion of their reservation and appropriating $1,800,000 for the purpose, was reported and passed. House bill to pay Albert H. Emery, of Connecticut, for use of gun patents by the government, amended by increasing the amount from $50,000 to $125,000, was passed. After a brief executive session the Senate at 3:10 p. m. adjourned.

The House, with Mr. Burrows in the chair considered, in committee of the Whole, the legislative appropriation bill.

Mr. Sayer, of Texas, raised a point of order against the clause providing for the appointment by the secretary of the interior of seven members of a board of Pension Appeals at $2,000 a year each. After a short discussion, the chair sustained the point of order.

On ordering the previous question no quorum voted, and this point was raised by Mr. Bynum (Ind). A count failing to develop a quorum, a call of the House was ordered. Only 101 members responded to their names.

After five hours consumed in calling the roll, further proceedings under the call were dispensed with, and the question recurred on ordering the previous question. The vote stood 136 to 10, and Mr. Bynum raised the point that there was no quorum present. The speaker pro tem thereupon announced that three and announced that there were 167 members present—more than a quorum.

Mr. Bynum thereupon demanded tellers, and no quorum voting, the yeas and nays were ordered. The vote resulted, yeas 171, nays 20—the speaker counting Messrs. Abbott, Breckenridge (of Kentucky), Haven, Enslee and Goodnight to make a quorum, and declared the previous question ordered and adjourned.

The President Puts His Name to the World's Fair Bill.

The President, having become convinced that the financial backing was ample, has signed the World's Fair bill.

The Tariff Debate.

In the House the debate on the tariff is expected to begin in about ten days, and it is the purpose of the managers to keep it to the front until it is disposed of. They do not want to give more than three weeks to its consideration, and if it cannot be completed in that time by holding day sessions, night sessions will be held and the tariff orators put on double time.

Gossip Concerning the Meeting of the National Committee.

One of the rumors that have [illegible] the surface is that the Executive Committee of the National Republican committee meets in Washington on the first of May, and that Senator Quay will tender his resignation.

In this connection General Clarkson is reported as his probable successor, and it is further said, that the President is aware of these arrangements and concurs.

While the committee is in session it is understood that the attitude of the party will be outlined in regard to the proposed bills to regulate congressional elections.

THE REPUBLICAN CAUCUS.

Its Action on Silver, Pensions and Other Matters.

Apparently the Republican members of the House have become tired of endless discussion for in caucus, on April 23, they suddenly recurred to the original purpose for which the first caucus was called—namely: the arrangement of an order of business—and made rapid progress in preparing a programme. The subject of silver legislation, which has heretofore so vexed the caucus, was disposed of with such ease and rapidity as to astonish the members who were not acquainted with the agreement between the Senate and House committees. Mr. Conger presented the report of the Caucus committee in the shape of a bill which was adopted upon a standing vote, without the formality of an aye and nay call.

Only half a dozen members voted in the negative, and their opposition was mainly based upon the failure of the bill to give a full legal tender quality to the treasury notes.

In addition to the provisions of the bill already stated, it is provided that the money now held in the treasury under section 5,222 R. S., and section 4 of the National Bank act, is to be covered into the treasury. This is the proposition which was introduced in the House last week in the form of a bill. It concerns the money held to redeem national bank circulation in case of liquidating bank or banks reducing circulation or taking out new charters, where the full circulation is not redeemed. This fund, when it is proposed to restore to circulation, it is estimated amounts to $78,000,000.

This bill seemed to meet with general approval as being a fair compromise. The conservative element was satisfied with the restrictions placed upon the quality of the treasury notes, and the silver men felt that they had secured the substance of their claims, in that the notes must be redeemed in lawful money. The bill was laid aside with the understanding that the committee on Rules will report a resolution requiring its consideration by the House at the earliest possible moment, with a strict limitation upon the length of debate.

Having disposed of the silver question, the caucus turned its attention to the subject of pensions, and, after a short discussion, endorsed the Morrill service pension bill, which grants a pension of $8 a month to soldiers who served twenty days in the war of the rebellion and who shall have reached the age of 62 years.

The Lodge National Election bill came next in order. Mr. Lodge briefly explained its provisions and the necessity for its passage. Mr. Rowell, chairman of the Elections committee, did not believe that it was necessary or expedient to pass a national election law, and submitted as a counter proposition a plan for a wide extension of the present supervisory system, which, he asserts, would meet all necessities.

THE SILVER QUESTION.

Full Text of the Measure Adopted by the Republicans.

The Republicans of the House and Senate have agreed on the basis for the preparation of a silver bill. The agreement is in harmony with the measure adopted by the Senate caucus committee with one important amendment. The following is the full text of the bill as agreed upon:

That the secretary of the Treasury is hereby directed to purchase from time to time silver bullion to the aggregate amount of 4,500,000 ounces of pure silver in each month, at the market price thereof, not exceeding $1 for 371 27-100 grains of pure silver, and to issue in payment for such purchases of silver bullion Treasury notes of the United States to be prepared by the secretary of the Treasury in such form and of such denominations, not less than $1 nor more than $1,000, as he may prescribe, and a sum sufficient to carry into effect the provisions of this act is hereby appropriated out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

Sec. 2. That the treasury notes issued in accordance with the provisions of this act shall be redeemable on demand, in lawful money of the United States at the treasury of the United States or at the office of any assistant treasurer of the United States, and when redeemed may be reissued; but no greater or less amount of such notes shall be outstanding at any time than the cost of the silver bullion then held in the treasury, purchased by such notes, and such treasury notes shall be a legal tender for all purchases and all public dues, and when so received may be reissued, and such notes when held by any national banking association may be counted as part of its lawful reserve; provided, that upon the demand of the holder of any of the treasurer notes herein provided for, the secretary of the treasury may, in his discretion and under such regulations as he may prescribe, exchange for such notes an amount of silver bullion which shall be equal in value at the market price thereof on the day of exchange to the amount of such notes.

Sec. 3. That the secretary of the Treasury shall coin such portion of the silver bullion purchased under the provisions of this act as may be necessary to provide for the redemption of the treasury notes herein provided for, and any gain of seigniorage arising from such coinage shall be accounted for and paid into the treasury.

Sec. 4. That the bullion purchased under the provisions of this act shall be subject to the requirements of existing law and the regulations of the mint service governing the methods of determining the amount of pure silver contained, and the amount of charges and deductions, if any, to be made.

5. That so much of the act of February 28, 1878, entitled "An act to authorize the coinage of the standard silver dollar and to restore its legal-tender character," as requires the monthly purchase and coinage of the same into silver dollars of not less than $2,000,000, nor more than $4,000,000 worth of silver bullion, is hereby repealed.

Sec. 6. That this act shall take effect thirty days from and after its passage.

Senator Teller this morning introduced the following bill as a substitute for the Jones silver bill, now on the Senate calendar:

That any person may deposit at any mint or assay office of the United States, either gold or silver bullion, or both, in quantities of not less than five ounces of gold or 50 ounces of silver, and demand and receive coin or coin certificates therefor at the rate of one dollar in coin or certificates for 25 8-10 grains, Troy weight of fine silver bullion, and at the rate of one dollar in certificates for 412½ grains of standard silver. That the coin certificates provided for in this act shall be receivable for all taxes and dues to the United States of every description, and shall be a legal tender for the payment of all debts, public and private.

Sec. 2. That it shall be the duty of the secretary of the Treasury to cause a sufficient number of coin certificates of the various denominations hereby authorized, to be prepared and distributed among the United States depositories, to enable them to comply with the provisions of this act and the sum of $50,000 is hereby appropriated to enable him to prepare and distribute said certificates.

Sec. 3. That this act shall take effect 30 days after its passage, the $50,000 appropriation, however, to be immediately available.

PAN-AMERICANS.

Has the Work of the Conference Justified Its Long Existence?

The International American Conference is a thing of the past. It may not be apparent just yet that the conference has accomplished much, but it is undoubtedly true that the way has been paved for an immense increase in the volume of trade between the United States and the Latin-American republics in the south.

The resolutions on arbitration, if ratified, will alone be sufficient return for the labor and expense attendant upon the gathering together and entertaining of so many foreign representatives. The conference is one of the things to which the administration in general and Secretary Blaine in particular may refer with pardonable pride, and history will give the government more credit for it than will the people of this generation.

Before the conference concluded its sessions the foreign delegates gave a banquet to the President, his cabinet, the Supreme judiciary, the members of the Senate committee on Foreign Relations, the House committee on Foreign Affairs, and United States delegates. In that connection attention may be directed to the fact that some of the foreign delegates are extremely ungrateful.

When the conference was organized a number of gentlemen—two of them officers in the United States army—were detailed for duty in connection with the gathering. They accompanied the excursion which was tendered the delegates last fall, and did everything they could think of to add to the strangers' comfort.

Services which at times were wholly incompatible with the rank of these officers, were cheerfully rendered up to a few days since, when they suddenly ceased. The cause of this cessation was found to be due to the extremely ungrateful conduct of Matias Romero, the Mexican minister.

Romero was entrusted with the duty of sending out invitations to the great banquet, and he decided not to invite any of these attaches. The attaches found out his determination, and very naturally felt hurt at the deliberate slight. Some of the foreigners were also indignant, and they took Romero to task to such an extent that he, about 24 hours previous to the feast, sent invitations to the neglected ones who, very naturally, declined to dignify the occasion with their presence. No one of the foreigners demanded more attention during the life of the conference than Romero, and his action has brought down on him a good deal of caustic comment.

APPOINTMENTS.

The Latest List Sent in by the President.

The President sent to the Senate the following nominations on April 23:

Receivers of Public Moneys—Alexander B. Jackson, at New Orleans; Thomas B. Shannon, at San Francisco; James H. Dansk n, at Alliance, Neb.; James Whitehead, at Broken Bow, Neb. Registers of the Land Office—John Reese, at Broken Bow, Neb.; Frederick M. Dorrington, at Alliance, Neb.; Robert S. Gardner, of West Virginia, Indian inspector; John E. Helms, agent for the Santee Indians, Nebraska.

The President, on April 25, sent to the Senate the following nominations:

Surveyor of Customs—Joseph A. Faris, port of Wheeling, W. Va.; Algernon H. Badger, appraiser of merchandise at New Orleans; Jacob Shuen, assistant appraisor of merchandise at San Francisco; collector of customs, James R. Jolley, district of Tybee, Ga.; John R. Mizell, district of Pensacola, Fla.

FEDERAL ELECTIONS.

Provisions of the Bill Introduced by Senator Hoar.

The federal election bill reported by Senator Hoar provides that the chief supervisors of elections now in office, their successors and such chief supervisors as may hereafter be appointed, shall be charged in their respective judicial districts, both in person and through the supervisors of election who may be appointed, with the supervision of congressional elections, with the enforcement of the national election laws, and with the prevention of fraud and irregularities in naturalization.

Whenever in any city having 20,000 inhabitants or upward, or in any congressional district not in such city, 100 or more qualified voters shall petition the chief supervisor, alleging that there is danger that unless the election is guarded it will not be fair and free, the chief supervisor shall forthwith forward the petition to the United States Circuit judge for the district; thereupon it shall be duty of the judge to open court for the purpose of transacting all business pertaining to registrations or voters as may by any of the United States law there be transacted. The court when so open shall be always open for the transaction of such business until the second day succeeding the election and the judge may exercise his powers either in open court or in chambers. The chief supervisor may verify registration lists, and in any city of 50,000 inhabitants or upwards may cause a house canvass of any district, but no inquiries shall be made as to the political opinions of any person.

Every person charged with any duty with regard to any act of any member of Congress who shall willfully and for the purpose of affecting the election, or any fraud thereon, shall be liable, on conviction, to a fine of not exceeding $5,000 or to imprisonment not exceeding five years, or both. The same penalty is provided for bribery or attempted bribery of voters. The Australian ballot system finds no place in the provisions of the bill, except that no state shall be prevented by the provisions of the bill from printing ballots at public expense or providing regulations to screen each voter from observation and to keep his vote secret.

THE TARIFF BILL.

How the Congressmen Stand on the Question.

The Philadelphia Press of April 28 presents a careful poll of the majority in Congress. The purpose was to ascertain the views of individual members as to the necessity of passing a tariff revision and reduction bill as speedily as possible. Interviews were had with 209 Senators and Representative

The interviewers have found what opposition exists to the McKinley bill on the Republican side of the House, and by extending the interviews to leading Democrats, have found the particular line of attack upon the bill likely to be adopted by the opposition.

The fact of supreme importance is that a bill revising the tariff and reducing the revenue will be enacted before Congress adjourns for the summer.

The Press has interviewed 159 Republican members, and with two exceptions they all agree that a Republican tariff bill will be passed, and that while differences exist as to the make-up of schedules the entire party is in accord on the general principle and purpose of the McKinley bill.

While the interviews show a strong sentiment on the part of the Republicans in favor of the bill, even if some features of it are not wholly in accord with the individual opinion of the member called upon to express his views, there is a singular dearth of strong criticism on the part of the Democrats.

In a general way the Democrats protest against the bill without going into particulars. They admit the probability of its passing, but they are evidently displeased with a measure which offers the masses of the people free sugar on the one hand, and the farmers of the country additional protection on the important articles which they produce on the other hand. The result summarized is as follows:

Total number interviews, 209; total number of Republicans interviewed, 159; number of Republicans who believe a bill revising the tariff and reducing the revenue must be passed before this Congress adjourns, 20; number not ready to vote for the McKinley bill as it passed the House, 141; number who believe the McKinley bill is sure to be made satisfactory to the party and the country by amendments and passed, 118; number who are not sure about it, 7.

President Harrison's First Veto Message.

President Harrison has vetoed the bill to allow Ogden, Utah, to increase its indebtedness. The message, which is the first of the kind, reads as follows:

The general law fixes the limit of four per cent on the last assessed value for taxation as the limit of indebtedness which a municipal corporation in the territories may assume. This bill extends this limit as to Ogden to eight per cent. The purposes are not peculiar or exceptional. They relate to schools, sewers, improvements, etc., and are common to every prosperous town. If the argument by which the measure is supported is adopted, the conclusion should be a general or special act extending general law; but in my opinion the limitation imposed by law is wise and wholesome and should not be relaxed.

The city now has power to increase its indebtedness $180,000, which would seem to be enough to make a good beginning in the construction of sewers, while the cost of street improvements is usually met by direct assessments. Almost all the states have limited the power of municipal corporations to incur indebtedness, and the limit is generally lower than that fixed in the territories. A large city debt retards the growth and in the end defeats the purpose of those who think by mortgaging the future to attract population and property. I do not doubt that the citizens of Ogden will ultimately realize that the creation of a municipal debt of over half a million dollars by a city of 16,000 population—being about $37 per capita—is too great.

Uncle Sam Will Send a Batch of Chinamen Over.

Attorney General Miller informed the Treasury department, under date of April 19, that there are nineteen Chinamen now in the custody of the United States marshal of Washington who were arrested and tried for coming into the United States in violation of the Chinese exclusion act.

He recommended, in accordance with a suggestion from the secretary of State, that notwithstanding the presumption that these Chinaman entered the United States across the British border, that they be returned to China at government expense for the reason that the men could not be turned over to British authorities without payment of a head tax of $50 each, and even then, might probably again evade the vigilence of the United States officers and return to this country.

Secretary Windom has adopted the recommendation and has instructed the collector of customs at Port Townsend to see that the men are returned to China in the most economical way by sailing or other vessel, bound direct for that country without touching at any American port en route.

The Former Northwest.

Senator Sherman on April 24, introduced a bill to provide for the building of a memorial structure at Marietta, in which are to be stored books, documents and relics connected with the early settlement of the northwest territory. An appropriation of $50,000 is provided for.

The Wool Growers.

The National association of Wool Growers has issued the following statement to the wool growers of the United States:

After consultation and careful study of the proposed tariff bill—known as the McKinley bill—and with the approbation of the wool growers present, we have joined in recommending to the committee on Ways and Means the following rates of duty for third-class wool: On such wool, the value of which shall be 13 cents including charges, the duty shall be 32 per centum ad valorem, and on such wool the value wh reof shall be over 13 cents, including charges, the duty shall be 50 per cent ad valorem.

These rates are slightly lower than those in the proposed bill upon the very inferior grade, but are higher upon the better grades which come directly in competition with our quarter blood and common wool, and we therefore request your earnest efforts to secure the enactment of the bill into law, with confidence and faith that its effect will be to place wool growing again among the prosperous industries of the country.

C. DELANO, President.
GEORGE H. WALLACE, Secretary Wool Growers' National association.

Loomis to Go Abroad.

Frank B. Loomis, Ohio state librarian during the first term of Governor Foraker's administration, and for several years past correspondent of the Cincinnati *Tomes-Star*, has been appointed consul at St. Etienne, France.

Mrs. Garfield.

Mrs. James A. Garfield and Mr. and Mrs. J. Stanley Browne, the latter of whom is Mrs. Garfield's daughter, visited the White House, on April 26, for the first time since the death of President Garfield, and were received in the Red parlor by President and Mrs. Harrison and Mrs. McKee.

Favor Arbitration.

Representatives of ten of the seventeen nations participating in the international American conference on April 28 signed the agreement drawn up by the conference for the settlement by arbitration of differences and disputes between them.

The Money Available.

The President has signed the joint resolution of Congress appropriating $150,000 to enable the secretary of War to distribute rations for the relief of destitute people in the districts overflowed by the Mississippi and its tributaries.

The Philadelphia.

The new cruiser Philadelphia will be given a dock trial this week, and a few days later she will be ran out to sea on a private run for tests. It is expected that she will be ready for her final official trial in about two weeks.

Acts Approved.

The President has approved the act in regard to the immediate transportation of dutiable goods and the act to divide the judicial district of North Dakota.

GENERAL NEWS.

THE GREAT STRIKE.

The Outlook for One of the Greatest in History.

It is the opinion of capitalists, as well as labor leaders, that May 1 will find Chicago in the midst of one of the greatest strikes ever experienced there.

The demand for eight hours will be almost universal, while the employers in the different trades are all seemingly determined not to grant the demand.

The carpenters' strike seems as far from a termination as on the day the men went out.

The brickmakers are now out, with no assurance of a speedy termination of their strike.

These, with the 15,000 Stock Yard employes, who are determined to get eight hours or quit, makes a total of about 27,000 men who will, from present indications, be striking on May 1.

Should such general movement be made, innumerable branches of trades and industries of less proportion will follow in the wake of the great outbreak, and business in Chicago will be all but paralyzed, while fully 50,000 men will be idle.

The Number of Workmen in Chicago.

Advance sheets from the city's official compilation of the number of wage earners, male and female, in the old wards of Chicago at the present time, were promulgated on April 28. The statistics were secured for the light they cast on the anticipated labor trouble predicted for May 1. A morning paper says:

"A mere glance at the tables will suffice to show the extravagance of the scare-head announcements made by some of the local newspapers. The tables include all who would be likely to inaugurate an eight-hour movement. The gross number is shown to be 304,704. Of these, 46,281 are women, who, by common assent, are wholly without organization and not meditating a strike. According to the reports that have been circulated fully one-half of the remaining 258,423 will go out May 1.

"When it is remembered that the cigar makers, the paper hangers, the stone masons and brick layers, the plumbers the plasterers, now have an eight hour day; when it is further remembered that all employes of the carrying trade, all clerks, Wholesale and Retail, all bakers, brewers, as well as all professional men, all bank, broker and real estate employes—in short, all except the few crafts that have pushed themselves to public notice in the projected movement have no intention of striking, the extravagance of the reports alluded to becomes apparent. It is thought that actual figures will furnish but few of the 100,000 or 150,000 strikers expected by labor agitators.

NO RECOGNITION.

The Employers and Employes Still Far Apart.

In spite of the numerous conferences held in Chicago, there is but little prospect that the carpenters' strike will be settled. The Carpenters' and Builders' association refuse to recognize the union in any way, and the strikers insist that they will agree to no terms unless this is done.

"When it comes to treating with our workmen individually, we are ready." Prest Goldie said this morning, "but if the appointment of an arbitration committee from an organization is construed by them into a recognition of the union, then there is nothing to talk about. We will not under any circumstances or conditions recognize their society."

NON-UNION MEN.

They are Pouring into Chicago from all Directions.

The lines laid down on both sides in the carpenters' strike are well defined, and both sides began the struggle on April 28.

Non-union men, in numbers larger than even the strikers care to admit, are pouring into Chicago, and it is believed the master carpenters, anticipating the fruitless conference of Saturday, had agents in other cities securing all the non-union carpenters they could find.

The strikers are very vigilant, however, and on that day captured a large number of non-union men and induced them to refuse to go to work.

A boss carpenter named Smythe attempted to put some non-union men at work on a building on North avenue, but the strikers drove the men away. Chief Marsh says that the non-union men will be protected in their work if it takes the entire police force.

In the meantime the boss carpenters' association and the carpenters' council are making arrangements to put 4,000 carpenters at work. Several minor points not yet settled between the two associations, have been submitted to arbitration, but it is not thought probable any considerable number of men will be set at work before the week is out.

PACKING-HOUSE MEN.

The Chicago Brigade Will Go Out Unless Given Their Demand.

Fully 1,000 packing-house men, of Chicago, by a unanimous vote, decided, Sunday afternoon, to go out on a strike Thursday unless their demand for an eight-hour day is complied with. The announcement of the vote was followed with deafening cheers.

Frank O'Neill, president of the Packing Laborers' Union, acted as chairman of the meeting. John McCullough said that the packers owned the laborers body and soul since the last strike, and that now, when an effort was being made to shake off the coils that bound them, they should take advantage of their opportunity and embrace it quickly. He said he hoped the men would win the issue; that this time there would be no Pinkertons to intimidate and murder them. He cautioned them not to resort to deeds of violence, but rather keep away entirely from the packing houses. Among the other speeches was one by Lawyer Richman, who promised the men from whom money forfeits have been exacted by the different packing establishments that they would not lose a cent of the forfeit by the strike.

IN A STATE OF SIEGE.

Emperor William Makes a New Move on the Labor Question.

The emperor, of Germany, who for some time past has been endeavoring to see what effect toleration and kindness would have on the socialist agitators, has now determined to take an opposite course regarding the proposed 1st of May demonstrations. Having been informed that the socialists had laid plans for concerted action on that day, he has decided to have recourse to the most stringent preventive measures.

Fifty halls that had already been rented by organized labor will be closed on May Day, all liquor saloons will be compelled to close their doors, and strong guards will bar entrance. Street gatherings are forbidden, and those disobeying the orders will be instantly placed under arrest. In fact, Berlin will be declared in a state of siege for one day, as bloodshed is apprehended by the authorities.

There is high palace authority for stating that the army proposes to take a hand in the first of May demonstration in Austria, great dissatisfaction existing in the ranks with regard to pay. It is further reported that the officers are in full sympathy with the workingmen, and that if the rank and file are not appeased by increased remuneration there is danger that on May 1 the army will fraternize with the socialists instead of firing on them. In view of this state of things, great precautions have been taken by the authorities.

Preparing for May Day.

Orders have been given for the closing of all schools in Vienna, on May Day. In the manufacturing districts many of the schools will be closed to the pupils for four days and in the meantime will be used as barracks. The court, in order to inspire confidence, will attend the usual races in the Prater. The workmen have decided to meet elsewhere.

The Dublin Strike.

It is the intention of the directors of the Great Southern & Western railway company to prosecute the signal men in their employ for leaving their work without giving any notice of their intention.

Archbishop Walsh has written a letter to the directors suggesting that they postpone the taking of legal steps against the signal men until the strike is settled. He also suggests in the meantime a conference be held between the directors and delegates appointed by the railway employes.

The trains between Dublin and Cork, on April 28, were are being worked by clerks from the railway offices, and by men secured from various sections of the country. With the help given by these men, the company is enabled to maintain service between the two cities.

Labor Notes.

The prefect of Bologna has forbidden processions on May 1. All the shops will be closed.

The Italian government has taken precautions looking to the maintenance of order on May 1.

The Spanish government has given orders to permit a labor demonstration in Valencia on May-day, unless disorders arise.

The managers of the military workshops at Spandau have announced that workmen who absent themselves on May-day will be dismissed.

GOMPERS CONFIDENT.

He Believes the Eight-Hour Movement Will Win.

Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor returned to Cleveland, Ohio, on April 26. He started on this trip with special reference to the eight-hour movement and within a few days after rising from a dangerous sickness. He has been traveling and making speeches for a month and his voice gave out. He said he probably should not have undertaken it, but meetings had been arranged and the officer who intended to made it could not do so.

"How does the federation regard the prospect for having the eight hour day adopted?"

"We have every reason to expect victory in this movement. This is not such a movement as that of 1886. That was chaotic, carried on under a wild enthusiasm, and without definite plans. This time it is in the hands of men educated in the work. There is a grim determination to win, and the work is being done systematically. Consequently there is not that display of enthusiasm which some wish to see. It is the aim of the federation now to inaugurate an eight-hour day; every other thing has been laid aside for the time, and effort is concentrated upon it."

"If you are successful then another trade will be chosen to adopt the change in hours?"

"That has been done. The miners will follow the carpenters. One trade at a time was chosen principally to do as little injury to business as possible and to be able to concentrate our efforts."

SIBERIAN EXILES.

Kennan's Scheme to Work by Moral Force.

At a meeting of the Siberian Exile Petition association in Philadelphia on April 23, George Kennan, the Siberian traveler, gave his views as to what can be done for the relief of the exiles.

The petition which he suggested last fall, he said, promised to be the largest ever presented to any ruler. He did not anticipate that it would have any effect in making the czar acquainted with any new facts, but by showing the intense feeling abroad in relation to the unfortunate exiles, it would exert a great moral effect.

No Bars in Boston.

The order has been issued by the Boston Police board that after May 1 next, the sale of intoxicating liquors over bars must be stopped. This order has been expected for some time, but it was the hope, not only of the police commissioners, but also of the saloonkeepers, that the law requiring liquors to be sold with food only would be repealed. But it was not.

A bill for the repeal of the law was rejected in the Senate a few days ago, and with the idea probably that there was no further hope for modification the police commissioners have given notice to the saloonkeepers to remove their bars within twenty days.

The enforcement of the law will work great injury to almost every saloonkeeper in the city. The hotels can more readily adapt themselves to the new condition, having more room in which to set tables. The hotel and saloonkeepers protest and the former are of opinion that the law will work injury to the hotel business.

Liquor Can Be Sent Into Prohibition States.

WASHINGTON, April 28.—The United States Supreme court, through Chief Justice Fuller, to-day rendered an opinion adverse to the constitutionality of state laws providing for the seizure of liquor brought into the state in original packages.

Such laws, the court holds, are an interference with the interstate commerce. After the liquor becomes the property of the importer the state may, under its police powers, regulate or prohibit sale, but it has no power, in the absence of express congressional authority, to prohibit the transportation of the article from another state and its delivery to the importer.

The case in which the decision was made was that of Gus Leidy & Co., plaintiffs in error, vs. A. J. Hardin. It was brought here on appeal from the Supreme court of Iowa, and this court reverses the decision of the state court. Justices Gray, Harlan and Brewer dissented. The case is one of great importance to Prohibitionists and liquor dealers.

Michigan to Wipe Out Her War Obligations.

On Thursday, May 1, the last of Michigan's bonded debt, amounting to $229,000 will mature, and the bonds will be called in and paid from the sinking fund. The bonds issued for war purposes aggregated $2,555,400.

Also, one-half were payable at the pleasure of the state, and were long since retired. The remaining half are payable May 1, 1890. Efforts have been made to retire all these and save the interest, but they commanded so high a premium that all could not be secured until maturity.

John Hancock's Grandson.

Charles Lowell Hancock, grandson of John Hancock of revolutionary fame, was buried on April 24 in the tomb of the Hancock family in the Granary burying ground, Boston. Mr. Hancock was a graduate of the Harvard law school, and has resided for the past sixteen years in Chicago, but has been staying for the past seven month with his niece in Brookline. He was 80 years old and a bachelor.

North Dakota G. A. R.

The state encampment of the G. A. R., of North Dakota, at Grand Forks concluded on April 25. George B. Winship was elected department commander, A. H. Burke, of Fargo, senior vice-commander, and Col. Bentley, of Bismarck, junior vice-commander. The delegates to the national encampment are S. C. Roberts, of Fargo, Geo. W. Harmon, of Mandan, and H. J. Rome, of Cassolton.

Stanley in London.

Mr. Henry M. Stanley returned to London on April 28 Sandringham, where he went Saturday night on the invitation of the Prince of Wales.

PATCHING THE BREAK.

A Difficult Task To Mend the Morgansea Crevasse.

At the Morgansea crevasse the water of the river is only a foot or less below the crown of the levee, which, at the break, was 26 feet high with a base of over 200 feet. The break is now some 1,500 feet wide, and it is caving off at the lower end at the rate of 300 feet in 24 hours.

Capt. Kingman estimates the discharge through this crevasse at over 150,000 cubic feet per second, and as his calculation was based on a breach a little over 1,200 feet wide it can be readily understood how rapidly the discharge is increasing.

The average cost of this levee was $10 per running foot, so that at the present rate of caving, the lower end is wasting away at the rate of $3,000 per day. Every effort will be used to protect what remains of Morgansea with as little delay as possible.

The stories of suffering and danger of loss of life in this overflowed district are, to say the least, premature. That a financial calamity has fallen upon a splendid section of Louisiana is, unfortunately, too true, but to attempt to color it with tragedy is manifestly absurd.

Thus far some stock has been drowned, and it is impossible to say how serious the loss of stock may be in the interior, but even now there are many who will not take the trouble to have their stock removed, though they are absolutely sure to be overtaken by the rising back water within the next few days.

Fortunately the water from the great Morgansea crevasse falls into an immense uninhabited swamp, less than 100 yards from the base of the levee, and it is sheer nonsense to suppose that it will overtake any one who has not had ample warning of its approach.

Its course will be largely through the Atchafalaya, and all, by this time, should be prepared for any emergency. This misfortune is enough, but it is not a matter over which people have any cause to become hysterical.

The current statement that there has been a general surrender along this line of defense is wholly erroneous.

Capt. Kingman is working as hard as ever to hold what is left of the levee, and the only portion of his forces that have been withdrawn is made up of planters and settlers who have been driven by the overflow to turn their attention to saving what they can of their own property.

Damage to the Sugar Plantations.

The news received from Baton Rouge and Bayou Sara reporting nine crevasses on the right bank of the Mississippi riv below the mouth of Red river, leads to the belief that the disaster to the sugar belt of Louisiana will almost equal that of 187 4 when nineparishes were affected.

A Missionary Killed—Eight Women Suffocated to Death.

BERLIN, April 29.—Rev. T. A. Lange, belonging to the Methodist mission of Canada, was stabbed to death by two burglars at his residence in Tokio, April 5. One of the murderers has since been caught.

On the arrival of the Japanese steamer in Hong Koug, March 26, from Nagasaki, the bodies of eight dead Japanese women were discovered in a hole between the engine room and the hold, having been suffocated during the passage.

They had stowed themselves away with four other women and a male attendant, being desirous of leaving the country and not having official permission. The survivors were insensible and much emaciated.

Illinois Wheat Crop.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., April 29.—Very discouraging reports are received from all over the state by the state board of Agriculture, in relation to the wheat crop. The situation, as reported a few weeks ago, is not improved in any respect. It is stated that about three-quarters of the land seeded last fall is being plowed up for spring sown oats or corn. The other fourth will yield about half a crop. As a rule wheat suffered mostly on flat, low lands, where water stood during the winter. The best wheat this year is found north of the so-called "Wheat Belt" of the state. Wheat has suffered greatly during the last month from dry weather.

The Confederate Dead.

April 26 was celebrated all through Georgia as Memorial day, the day upon which the graves of the confederate dead were decorated. In Atlanta the occasion was celebrated with elaborate exercises. Invitations to participate had been sent to all living ex-confederate generals, and